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Hafa Adai!

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3 hotels temporarily closed

A boy views the massive destruction caused by Super Typhoon Yutu at the Pacific Islands Club in San Antonio. PIC and two other major hotels on Saipan temporarily closed due to the devastation.
FERDIE DE LA TORRE

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Three major hotels on Saipan have temporarily closed operations due to extensive damage from Super Typhoon Yutu's fury.

Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands president Gloria Cavanagh confirmed with *Saipan Tribune* that Pacific Islands Club Saipan, Coral Ocean Golf Resort, and the Saipan World Resort have temporarily shut down as they are cleaning up the property and doing repairs.

Cavanagh said Aquarius Beach Tower Hotel in Chalan Kanoa also

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PSS: Schools may take 2 to 8 weeks to reopen

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

» 868 shelterees on Saipan; 64 on Tinian

It now looks like it would take much longer than just 14 days for public schools to open on Saipan and Tinian.

The Public School System's initial assessments point toward shutting down schools on Saipan and Tinian for at least over 14 days, depending on the amount of damage sustained throughout the islands in the wake of Super Typhoon Yutu.

A week after Yutu's landfall in the CNMI, PSS is still reeling from the over 180mph winds, which blew away roofs and ceilings from campus buildings.

According to PSS' initial assessments, the continuation of classes on Saipan and Tinian schools may happen after about two to eight weeks due to the "extensive damage" to schools.

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PH consulate eyes aid for Filipinos

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
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REPORTER

The Philippine Honorary Consul to the CNMI and the Philippine Consulate General in Guam are exploring ways on how to help Filipinos on Saipan and Tinian who were affected by Super Typhoon Yutu.

Philippine Honorary Consul Glicerio Arago said he is working closely with Philippine Consul Marciano De Borja in Guam in exploring ways of how they could provide immediate assistance to Filipino nationals in

See PH on Page 4

CUC restores power in some areas

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

» But Power Plant 1 lost power due to surge

Commonwealth Utilities Corp. crews completed yesterday the installation of power poles and conductors (primary lines) in Feeder 7—in Lower Base, Sadog Tasi, and Marpi—but could not go online as Power Plant 1 in Lower Base lost power Tuesday night.

CUC also disclosed that, based on their partial assessment, there are 754 downed poles and eight damaged transformers on Tinian.

On Saipan, CUC inspectors con-

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Local

Matson launches new RMI service

GUAM—Matson Inc., a leading U.S. carrier in the Pacific, has launched its new direct U.S. flag service between Honolulu and the Republic of the Marshall Islands, reducing cargo transit times to the RMI from the U.S. mainland by as many as eight days.

The new service will call at three ports in the Marshall Islands: Kwajalein, Ebeye, and Majuro every 17 days.

Matson purchased a 700-TEU, U.S.-flagged containership to operate the new service. Christened *Kamokuiki*, or "small island" or "vessel" in the Hawaiian language, the vessel is well suited to serving island communities with two 45-ton cranes onboard, hydraulic folding hatch covers and high maneuverability that allows docking without tugs.

The vessel's first voyage KAM002 departed Honolulu on Saturday and will arrive at Kwajalein on Saturday, Nov. 3.

Matson has served the Marshall Islands since 1972. It currently serves Kwajalein, Ebeye, and Majuro from the U.S. West Coast via Guam, where westbound containerized and bulk cargo is transshipped to Matson's Micronesia service.

The new service from the U.S. West Coast to Kwajalein, Ebeye, and Majuro via Honolulu will deliver cargo with a transit time of approximately two weeks, compared to three weeks or more with the current service.

Along with unrivaled transit times, advantages of the new service include Matson's dedicated terminal operations at Seattle, Oakland and Long Beach, offering shippers late cut-off times, industry-leading truck turn times and use of Matson's extensive owned chassis inventory.

"Matson has been consistently rated the No. 1 ocean carrier in the world because of its commitment to operating the fastest and most reliable service in the markets we serve," said John Lauer, chief commercial officer. "We are excited to bring U.S. flag service and shorter transit times from the U.S. West Coast to Kwajalein, Ebeye and Majuro."

Founded in 1882, Matson is a leading provider of ocean transportation and logistics services. For more information, visit www.matson.com. ***(PR)***

WIC benefits out this Friday

The CNMI Women, Infant, and Children's Program onsite service center remains closed. However, WIC benefits are currently being uploaded and should be completed by Friday, Nov. 2, 2018.

Families do not need to come to the WIC Clinic to receive their benefits. Benefits will be directly uploaded to their eWIC card and the status of your benefits can be seen by logging into your EZWIC app.

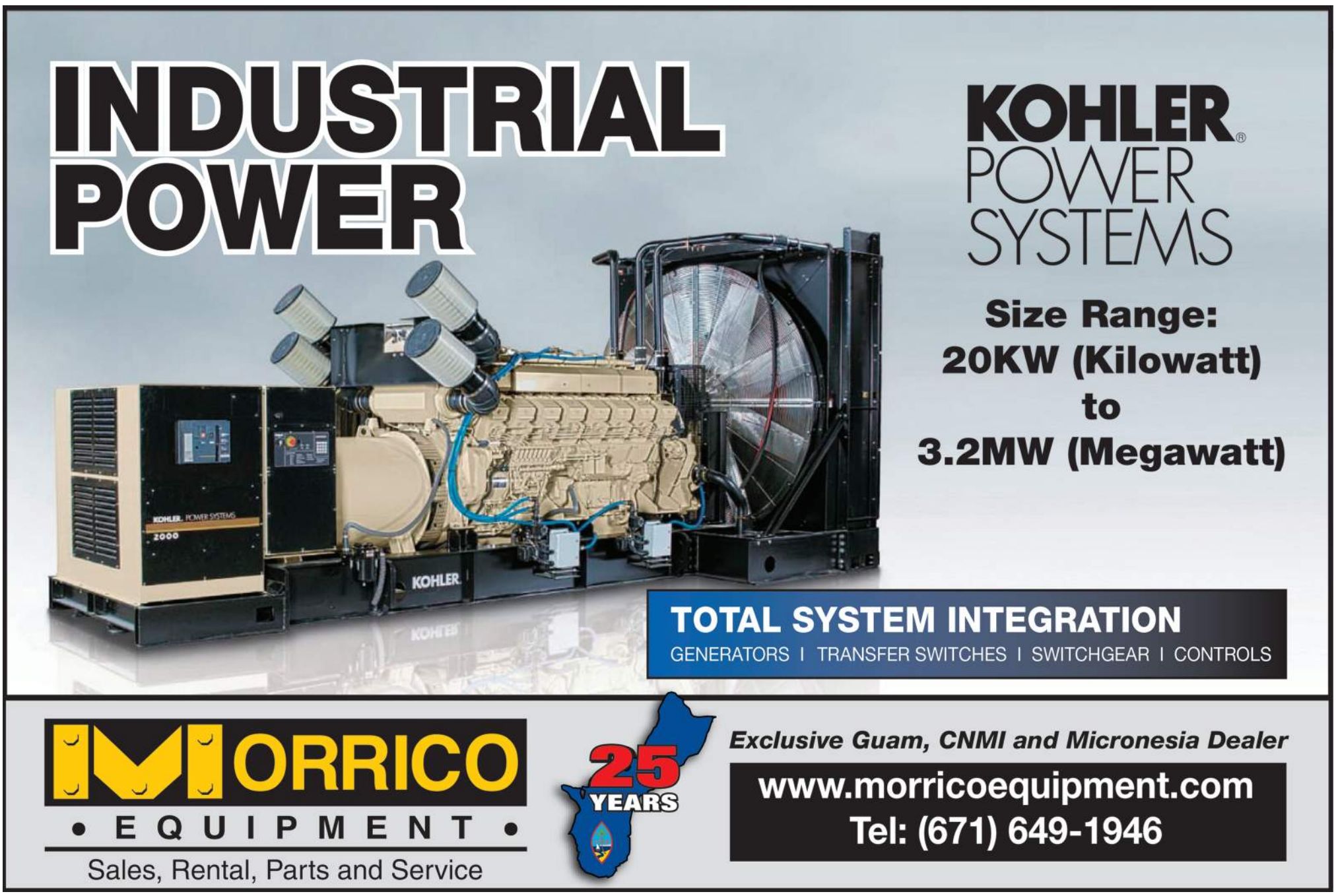
If you do not have internet and are not able to access the EZWIC app, you can go to a WIC store nearest to you and ask for a benefits balance receipt.

■ On Saipan:
- Blue Sky Market (San Antonio)
- Capitol Hill Market (Capitol Hill)
- Han Nam Market (Koblerville)
- Joeten (Susupe)
- XO Market (Chalan Lau Lau)

■ Tinian: J&J Mart

■ Rota: Sinapalo Safeway

For more information, call the WIC program directly at (670) 287-4076. ***(PR)***



The Salvation Army's soup kitchen in Gualo Rai started serving meals yesterday and will continue to their community feeding to help families affected by Super Typhoon Yutu. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Salvation Army soup kitchen opens, needs volunteers

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The Salvation Army's soup kitchen in Gualo Rai started serving meals yesterday and will continue with their community feeding to help families affected by Super Typhoon Yutu.

"Here in Gualo Rai, we just opened the soup kitchen and will offer meals from 11:30am to 3pm on a daily basis until our supplies last. We started giving out food four days ago and we also delivered packed foods to shelters and some areas in the villages where people can just walk in and pick up a meal," said Annie Lizama, who is in charge of the soup kitchen.

Yesterday, The Salvation Army prepared close to 2,000 meals. The group is also giving away 500 packed meals to shelters. Marianas Young Professionals volunteers and members of a church group are helping to distribute and prepare the meals.

Lizama added that donations, such as canned goods, trays, and food containers, are welcome, while they are coordinating with the Federal Emergency Management Agency to help them find storage for supplies that need refrigeration.

The Salvation Army is also looking for volunteers, especially early in the morning around 5am during food preparation.

"[Today], we will be needing additional hands for chopping 30 cases of chicken. We do a lot of chopping, so we need a lot of hands. It will also be helpful if they will bring cutting boards and knives because we're short of kitchen tools. If they have hair net, they could bring them, too," Lizama said.

Triple J Saipan Inc. has partnered with the Salvation Army Saipan for the soup kitchen in Gualo Rai.

"It has always been important to us to help others, especially those in need. At the moment, our island is hurting and Triple J is will offer as much assistance as possible. With experience from Typhoon Soudelor back in 2015, Five Star Wholesale and the Salvation Army have partnered up to reopen a soup kitchen for the island community where anyone can stop in and have a hot meal to eat," said Robert H. Jones, chairman/CEO Triple J Enterprises.

To volunteer, reach out to Lizama at 285-2585, or check out mypros.org or visit its Facebook account, Marianas Young Professionals, and leave a message.

The Salvation Army minister Wayne Gillespie is off-island.

CUC warns vs improper use of generators

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Commonwealth Utilities Corp. executive director Gary P. Camacho advised residents using generators to ensure that their main breaker on their home panel is turned off to prevent any electrical back-feed.

"This poses a danger to line crew and severe injury and death can result from these incorrectly installed generators," Camacho said.

An unidentified woman was found dead at the Hana Health Massage in Susupe Tuesday morning. Police believe she was a victim of carbon monoxide poisoning from a running power generator.

In his advisory, Camacho said residents should not use generators without the proper electrical switches.

Camacho said all generators should be connected through a double throw switch to protect the property and the line crews working on the system.

He said incorrectly connected generators can cause a back-feed through the secondary wiring back to the overhead transformer, re-energizing the overhead system to 7,970 volts.

Meanwhile, Camacho advised the public to refrain from damaging downed power cables as this will cause a delay in power restoration efforts.

Camacho urged the public to contact CUC's Call Center for assistance if cables prevent access to their residence so that qualified personnel can safely remove cables.

"Residents are warned that severe injury and death can result from improper handling," he said.

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RO water system kicks off

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
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REPORTER

The U.S. military completed setting up of a water filtration system at the Garapan Fishing Base yesterday, allowing hundreds to line up to avail of fresh, filtered water.

Yesterday, members of the 36th Civil Engineer Squadron out of Anderson Air Force Base, Guam completed setting up the reverse osmosis system, kicking off a line as early as 6am that stretched all the way out of the Garapan Fishing Base.

According to 2Lt. Eric Baldwin, the reverse osmosis system decontaminates ocean water and makes it drinkable.

"It takes ocean water, it gets rid of all the undrinkable stuff like salt and any sort of contaminants, filters it out, and we add some cleaning agents to it…and it makes the water drinkable," he said.

As of yesterday, due to the high demand and the 15,000-gallon water limit, residents were restricted to three 5-gallon water containers per family until further notice, Baldwin said.

It's a lot of people…that's why we're restricting the water right now…because we know a lot of people here have been without water since the storm hit so we need to meet everyone's initial demands," he said.

Baldwin said that he and his crew arrived last Sunday and have been working 24 hours a day in order to get the machine ready.

"We got here Sunday and we immediately started working Sunday morning…we've been here working 24 hours a day," he said.

Baldwin said that an RO system is a complicated and costly filtration system that is only used when absolutely necessary.

"With any sort of RO system, the system is very complicated; they're very expensive as well, that's the reason why you don't see them in normal civilian use, only in disaster relief use or where water sources are not commonly available," he said.

Baldwin said that the construction of the RO system went as smoothly as it could, thanks to the cooperation of various agencies.

"The local government has been very cooperative. Any sort of issue we've had, any sort of need, they have met immediately. [Federal Emergency Management Agency] has been very cooperative and our home base has been working as hard as they can to give us everything we need as soon as we need it," he said.

The U.S. Air Force is also in the process of constructing an RO system on Tinian and will remain on the island until their services are no longer needed.

Hundreds line up yesterday to avail of fresh, filtered water from the reverse osmosis system at the Garapan Fishing Base.
KMBERLY BASUTISTA

PH

From Page 1

the Northern Marianas who were affected by Super Typhoon Yutu.

"We have been working closely with our Philippine Consulate General in Guam in providing whatever we can to our affected Filipino brothers and sisters," he said.

"While we await the approval of our request, I join our *kababayans* (countrymen) in solidarity and hope that we all can get through this difficult and challenging period," he added.

According to a press release from the Office of the Honorary Philippine consul, as reports of damage, including loss of properties and possessions, come to light from the catastrophic impact of Super Typhoon Yutu, the Honorary Philippine Consular Office to the CNMI has already proposed free passport application for those with lost or destroyed passports, free affidavits, declarations and certifications relating to Super Typhoon Yutu, and free expedited travel documents if passport is lost/destroyed for those who needs to immediately return or be repatriated to the Philippines.

It is expected that a number of Filipino workers will need these documents when applying for federal relief assistance in the name of their children.

The Philippine Consular Support Office at Finasisu can also facilitate and process the assistance and entertain inquiries. The support office can be reached at (670) 233-6293.

Much-needed relief items that are needed include clothing, towels, solar chargers, mosquito repellents, tarpaulins, large plastic storage containers, blankets, personal hygiene kits (hand sanitizer, soap, shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrush, dishwashing soap, laundry soap), and food items (rice and canned goods).

Arago said his request for relief assistance is in partnership with the Philippine Consulate General in Guam. Once approved, the distribution of relief assistance to Filipino nationals on Saipan and Tinian will be done with the help of various Filipino organizations.

The distribution of relief goods is being proposed to take place this month during the Philippine Consulate General Consular Outreach Mission.

HOTELS

From Page 1

had extensive damage, but she is not sure whether the hotel managed to remain open.

She said the Saipan World Resort in Susupe was renovating and running partially prior to the storm and is just temporarily closed after Super Typhoon Yutu.

Cavanagh said Coral Ocean Point Golf Resort Club in Koblerville is almost completely damaged but Coral Ocean Point itself is looking at reopening at the beginning of the year.

With respect to the Pacific Islands Club in San Antonio, Cavanagh said they sustained major damage, but are looking at a month to a month and a half to reopen.

"We got damage both in the hotel and waterpark," said Cavanagh, who is PIC's general manager.

Both Coral Ocean Point Golf Resort Club and PIC, along with Kensington Hotel, are owned by E-Land Group.

Cavanagh said all other hotels suffered only minor damage and are operational.

"It's very sad. Typhoon Soudelor hit the north side; this one hit the south side," she said.

Typhoon Soudelor devastated the CNMI in 2015.

"This is what we get for living in paradise," the HANMI president said, adding that they're glad that there was no loss of life or any major injuries during the storm.

"I have been through five major storms in my life and this one was the worst," she said.

Cavanagh said that all employees are joining in trying to clean up all hotel properties in order to get them ready for repairs and reopening.

She said majority of the hotels, starting from Kanoa Resort going north, with the exception of Saipan Word Resort, are up and running.

Coral Ocean Point Golf Resort Club operations manager Calvin Park said the hotel suffered extensive damage, prompting them to transfer their guests to Kensington Hotel.

Park said they are temporarily closing the hotel for clean-up and to remove debris that pose a danger to guests and employees.

Park said they started yesterday to distribute their drinkable water to residents.

He said they were able to give 300 containers of water to 150 persons.

"We will increase the water distribution tomorrow. We are happy to help the people," said Park, adding that they also distributed free water to the public when Soudelor devastated the CNMI.

PSS

From Page 1

"The range of time is a result of varying levels of damage at each campus. Therefore, some schools are expected to open sooner than others," said a PSS statement.

"The school year will be adjusted to accommodate for the instructional time lost for each school," it added.

Schools on Rota, however, resumed instruction last Monday.

"Efforts are underway to get schools operational as soon as possible," PSS noted, adding that it is working with the Office of the Governor, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the American Red Cross, the Marianas Young Professionals, and more.

PSS noted that classes would not resume until facilities are deemed safe and water is readily available, and advises the public to steer clear of PSS campuses on Saipan and Tinian for safety reasons.

Since classes are halted for the meantime, PSS advised 190-day certified employees to not report to work until further notice. All non-certified staff have begun reporting for work.

PSS schools and central office hours are limited to 8am to 3pm from Monday through Friday.

868 total shelterees in 8 shelters

PSS noted in their statement yesterday that there are 868 shelterees on Saipan and 64 shelterees on Tinian in campuses.

In preparation for Yutu, PSS activated Kagman High School, Koblerville Elementary School, Marianas High School, San Vicente Elementary School, Saipan Southern High School, Tinian Elementary School, Kagman Elementary School, and Dandan Head Start to provide shelter.

While all shelters are already at maximum capacity, PSS noted that only Kagman Elementary School and Dandan Head Start still has space for shelterees.

CUC

From Page 1

tinue to pull electric meters from damaged locations and for safety concerns from buildings and has removed 751 meters.

As of yesterday at noon, CUC crews were able to erect most of the wooden power poles on As Terlaje Hill along Chalan Monsignor Guerrero Road down to Mobil Gas Station in Chalan Kiya. About nine concrete power poles near the gas station are still aslant.

CUC executive director Gary P. Camacho said Feeder 7 areas—those in Lower Base, Sadog Tasi, and Marpi—are now ready to go online as soon as Power Plant 1 is energized.

He said Power Plant 1 is currently undergoing maintenance of switchgears and grounding after it lost power due to a surge from the loads of big establishments.

Out of nine feeders on Saipan, only Feeder 1 was online as of yesterday morning, Camacho said. Feeder 1 covers the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. area, Navy Hill, Garapan, Puerto Rico, and Chinatown.

Primary lines were energized Sunday afternoon, bringing power to the CHCC area and some adjoining laterals, including Navy Hill water wells.

Last Monday, CUC energized additional Feeder 1 areas on primary roads, providing power to Anak's Homes, Upper Navy Hill, and Lower Navy Hill, and Lower MIHA. Those in lateral areas with downed power poles have no power.

Last Tuesday, CUC energized additional Feeder 1 areas that include Paganville, Sugar King Estates, Bank of Saipan to China Town (primary line). As a result, JG Sablan Ice and Water Co. was able to continue production of drinking water and ice for residents.

Camacho urged establishments along Feeder 1 partial to notify CUC immediately when switching due to power overload, which can affect operations at the hospital and Navy Hill water wells.

Feeder 4 Grid (first partial) areas or Sadog Tasi to Capital Hill by the old Emergency Management Office are also ready to go online as soon as Power Plant 1 is energized.

The entire areas under Feeder 4 are portions of Lower Base, Commonwealth Ports Authority's seaport, and Beach Road Garapan south to San Jose intersection.

With respect to water issue, Camacho said, all tank service areas remain offline due to loss of power to pumps and damaged tank level gauges. Pipe damage assessment is still ongoing.

The As Matuis water station is closed due to low water levels.

With its closure, Camacho said, CUC's water filling stations will increase volume for the public from 50 gallons to 100 gallons.

He said Koblerville is exempted as it will have 50 gallons daily.

Camacho said Donni Springs has unlimited untreated water and was activated as an emergency government fill station.

On Tinian, Camacho said, all feeders remain offline and station power is on at the CUC Tinian Power Plant.

Islandwide water services remain offline. CUC Operations Command Center continues to operate from 6am to 7pm.

Camacho said the Marpo Valley Water Station is still in operation for the public to get water from 1:30am to 5pm.

He said a 270KW generator for the Maui II pump station on Saipan was transported to Tinian and is scheduled to be energized yesterday to provide water to the community.

With the anticipation of additional crews and materials, Camacho said, humanitarian efforts through the Federal Emergency Management Agency, U.S. Coast Guard, and American Red Cross are currently in place.

On Rota, all CUC systems are back to normal as of Saturday evening.

SBA aids in recovery efforts

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

The U.S. Small Business Administration has been assisting the people of the CNMI with their loan inquiries that would help them in their recovery efforts.

SBA provides low-interest and long-term disaster loans to businesses of all sizes, private, non-profit organizations, homeowners, and renters for the repairs or replacement of their uninsured or underinsured disaster damaged properties.

They also offer economic injury disaster loans for businesses that may have sustained damage to their property or whose sales were affected because of the disaster. The loans may be used as additional capital to keep the business in operation until it picks up again.

SBA Office of Disaster Assistance public information officer Cynthia Cowell told *Saipan Tribune* that President Trump had approved two disaster declarations in month and Super Typhoon Yutu on Saipan and Tinian last week.

She said that personnel from their Field Operations Center-West have been in the CNMI, providing assistance for residents who sustained damage during Magkhut last Sept. 10 and Yutu last Oct. 24 and 25.

"SBA is still active in the CNMI. To date we have approved $605,600 in loans and we continue to support the CNMI in its recovery efforts," said Cowell, who added that the two disasters have two separate filing deadlines.

Businesses and residents affected by Typhoon Mangkhut have until Nov. 28, 2018, to submit their applications for property damage while economic injury applications for businesses is due by July 1, 2019.

As for Typhoon Yutu victims with property damage, both business and residents, they have until Dec. 26, 2018, to submit their loan applications while for businesses who want to avail of economic injury loans will have a July 26, 2019, deadline.

Cowell said there are no disaster recovery centers open on Saipan and Tinian, while the DRC on Rota is at Room A-1 of the Northern Marianas College instructional site in Fina Sisu Lane across the Tatachog Beach Park in Songsong.

Cowell said residents and businesses should also file their insurance claims and register with the Federal Emergency Management Agency. "Please do not wait for insurance and FEMA to settle before applying for SBA assistance."

"SBA may be able to get money to those affected by the typhoon sooner than insurance can be settled, and we work with FEMA and insurance providers to make certain that no double-payments occur."

She added that it is important for residents to also understand that they should immediately submit their loan applications if FEMA referred them to SBA. "And allow SBA to process a decision. If approved, they are under no obligation to take the loan."

"If we cannot approve a loan, we may refer them back to FEMA for further grant consideration. If a referred applicant does not complete their application, they will not remain eligible for most FEMA programs."

Homeowners, renters, businesses, and private non-profit organizations can apply online at www.disasterloan.sba.gov/ela or visit the same website for more information.

Tinian slowly gets back up—thanks to military aid

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Air Force are now working to resolve water distribution issues on Tinian.

Tinian Mayor Joey Patrick San Nicolas, who continues to provide update on their recovery efforts on Facebook, said Wednesday that a ship carrying 4,000 gallons of water has arrived at the seaport.

The water was acquired through a private contractor and will be distributed to the Tinian Elementary School that is currently being used as a shelter for displaced families, the Tinian Health Center, and the Tinian Municipal Operations Center.

San Nicolas said that getting the Maui Well to distribute water to the entire island is the No. 1 priority, with Army engineers working on it. A 400-kilowatt generator arrived on Monday and was immediately installed at the Marpo Valley pump station.

"[The generator] was successfully placed at the Maui Well and, for a very short while, water was being released in to the villages. However, there were so many leaks within the island that it compromised the whole operation," said San Nicolas.

That means they had to suspend the operation. He said CUC and Army engineers continue to work on the issues facing the Maui Well pump station.

San Nicolas also said the Air Force has also been putting together a reverse osmosis system at Kammer Beach and would soon begin processing seawater.

"At this point, we can't state on when the distribution of that water will occur but I can state that equipment and facility is down there. There are some tests that are being done. …It also takes some time to process the seawater and convert it to drinkable water. Once we're ready to operate the distribution center, we will let the public know and provide more information as to the procedure that will be in place so that there would be an efficient and fair distribution of water."

The Federal Emergency Management Agency and the CNMI Governor's Office helped bring the reverse osmosis system to Tinian with USAF personnel assembling and setting it up at Kammer Beach.

San Nicolas said that they are also looking at using the pump station used by the Tinian Cattlemen's Association for their cows as a non-potable water source. The well is located near Broadway heading toward the Tinian International Airport.

The well, however, needs to be connected to a generator. "Once connected, we hope that could be a source of non-potable water that could be used for cleaning things or taking showers. This is not yet ready and we're waiting for a 30-kW generator."

Gas stations

San Nicolas also reported that representatives from FEMA, Joint Region Marianas, and Mobil Oil Marianas were on island to assess the Tinian fuel and SN5 gas stations where they are trying to determine the extent of the damage of both facilities.

"[They are] trying to determine how to get both sites up and running…The Tinian fuel service station has minor issues and, with the help of the Mobil Oil Marianas, we're hopeful that they will be back online soon," he said.

"SN5 is working hard to get back online. They are also working closely with the technician and had identified the problems in their facility. It is a little more difficult because it has been compromised due to the storm but they are identifying the solutions to the problems."

Good news

Tinian's roads have been 85 to 90 percent cleared of typhoon debris like broken power poles, cables and wires, and fallen trees and branches. "Debris had been pushed aside so that people can now drive on the roads."

"The debris clearing was done in the cooperation of FEMA and JRM. It is our understanding that Marines and Seabees are coming, bringing in equipment to assist in our efforts to clear our island of debris. Close to 100 or more will join in the cleanup efforts on Tinian," said San Nicolas.

San Nicolas added that those in the island that would need road-clearing assistance near their houses should call 483-1803 so they could also relay the information to Department of Public Works personnel.

He said shuttle services are also being offered to residents who need to go to the relief distribution center at the Tinian Gymnasium or to buy things in stores.

Stores in San Jose village had also resumed its operations with 3K Mart, J.J. Mart, Lucky Chang, and Tinian Ice & Water selling dry goods and drinking water. FEMA is also distributing drinking water at the Tinian gym.

The pickup points for the shuttle service are at the Marpo Heights bus station near David Evangelista's residence, Marpo Valley across former senator David Cing's house, and Carolinas Heights down the road from Patrick San Nicolas' residence.

The Department of Public Safety and the Department of Fire and Emergency Services are providing the transportation services that begins at 8:30am. The service is to pick up residents and drop them off either at the Tinian Gym or for them to buy items at the stores.

Distribution of meals ready to eat and humanitarian daily rations continue at the Tinian Gym distribution center where people with special needs—the elderly, homebound patients, and the disabled—are the priority.

Another temporary shelter was opened at the Natibu Park where several families are currently staying and have also been receiving food and water. A portable toilet will also be provided while the American Red Cross-NMI Chapter continues to provide assistance to the shelterees.

Patients or residents who might need medical assistance should either call 911 or 433-9222 for ambulance pick-up. The Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. is working with Star Marianas if they needed to be airlifted to the Commonwealth Health Center.

COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
San Jose Village • P.O. Box 502149 • Saipan, MP 96950
Tel. Nos: (670) 234-7145/7146/6293/6245 • Fax No.: (670) 235-7147
Website: www.developcnmi.com

PUBLIC NOTICE
October 31, 2018

The Commonwealth Development Authority (CDA) wishes to make available its first floor conference room as a "Charging Station" for cellphones, laptops and small handheld electronic devices beginning Monday, November 5, 2018.

CDA will also allow limited internet access and dedicate a land line to both businesses and individuals to register with FEMA on line and or by phone. Allotted time is from 11 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Monday to Friday.

CDA Building is in Oleai (San Jose Village, Saipan) right across Oleai Beach Bar and Grill.

We ask everyone to be respectful and courteous in availing of these assistance.

For questions, please contact us by phone or email, or visit our offices. Contact information follows:

Saipan - CDA Building, Oleai
Tel. Nos.: 234-7145/7146/6293/6245
extensions 305, 307 & 309
Email: m.coleman@developcnmi.com or
m.camacho@developcnmi.com

/s/ **Donnie P. Militante**
Acting Executive Director

COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
San Jose Village • P.O. Box 502149 • Saipan, MP 96950
Tel. Nos: (670) 234-7145/7146/6293/6245 • Fax No.: (670) 235-7147
Website: www.developcnmi.com

PUBLIC NOTICE
October 31, 2018

Due to the devastating effects of Super Typhoon Yutu, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands was declared a major disaster by both CNMI Governor, Ralph Torres and the President of the United States, Donald Trump. In view of this declaration and in hopes to provide relief to CDA clients and debtors, the CDA Board of Directors approved yesterday, October 30, 2018, loan payment deferment of four (4) months, from November 2018 to February 2019. No interest will accrue for the entire one-hundred twenty (120) day period. If borrowers and debtors choose to make payments during the loan deferment period, all payments will be applied to the principal loan balance. Additionally, for loans that are delinquent for more than thirty (30) days, this offer on loan payment deferment will not cure the delinquent amounts owed.

For questions, please contact us by phone or email, or visit our offices. Contact information follows:

Saipan - CDA Building, Oleai
Tel. Nos.: 234-7145/7146/6293/6245 extensions 305, 307 & 309
Email: m.coleman@developcnmi.com

Tinian - Kings Building
San Jose Village, Tinian
Tel. No. 433-9203
Email: j.sablan@developcnmi.com

Rota - Seven Brothers Building
Songsong Village, Rota
Tel. No. 532-9408
Email: e.manglona@developcnmi.com

CDA encourages all its borrowers and debtors to avail of this offer. The Board of Directors, management and staff are hopeful that this offer will assist its borrowers and debtors recuperate during this difficult time.

/s/ Donnie P. Militante
Acting Executive Director

COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
San Jose Village • P.O. Box 502149 • Saipan, MP 96950
Tel. Nos: (670) 234-7145/7146/6293/6245 • Fax No.: (670) 235-7147
Website: www.developcnmi.com

PUBLIC NOTICE
October 31, 2018

The CDA Board of Directors approved yesterday, October 30, 2018, payment relief to all the CDA Tenants, Saipan, Rota & Tinian, who are on the Lease-to-Own with Option to Purchase arrangement and who are leasing spaces at the CDA Building, Oleai, Saipan. Similar to CDA clients, CDA tenants suffered from the devastating effects of Typhoon Yutu. Payment relief is for three (3) months for Tinian & Rota beginning November 2018 up to January 2019. For Rota, one (1) month additional payment relief is granted. The previous relief for Rota due to Typhoon Mangkhut ends December 2018; therefore, payment relief is extended to January 2019.

For questions, please contact us by phone or email, or visit our offices. Contact information follows:

Saipan - CDA Building, Oleai
Tel. Nos.: 234-7145/7146/6293/6245
extensions 305, 307 & 309
Email: c.kintol@developcnmi.com

Tinian - Kings Building
San Jose Village, Tinian
Tel. No. 433-9203
Email: j.sablan@developcnmi.com

Rota - Seven Brothers Building
Songsong Village, Rota
Tel. No. 532-9408
Email: e.manglona@developcnmi.com

/s/ Donnie P. Militante
Acting Executive Director

NMC eyes rebuilding with typhoon-resistant structures

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Still recovering from the destruction of Typhoon Soudelor three years ago and now faced with widespread destruction from Super Typhoon Yutu, the Northern Marianas College is being prompted to aggressively pursue typhoon-resistant structures once recovery gets fully underway.

According to acting NMC president Frankie Eliptico, NMC sustained large damage to its structures in its As Terlaje campus on Saipan, based on preliminary visual assessments.

"…There are some buildings on campus that suffered extensive damage beyond repair, so we really need to build anew whereas other buildings on campus [sustained] damage that we can repair over a period of time," he told *Saipan Tribune* Wednesday.

Eliptico noted that the college has to aggressively pursue typhoon-resistant structures to prevent such heavy damage.

"They have to be," said Eliptico. "We do not want to rebuild structures to the same [condition prior to Super Typhoon Yutu]. We want hardened structures that are more typhoon-resistant or even typhoon-proof, because we can't continue to come back storm after storm to the [same damage]."

Majority of the Saipan campus' buildings have heavy damage. In order to continue classes, Eliptico is now looking at spaces where classes could be set up.

In a meeting with Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and Federal Emergency Management Agency, a possible option for the college to continue classes could be in temporary structures shipped into Saipan for a makeshift classroom, such as those used in American Samoa in the past.

"We can probably begin classes in some buildings here, but we are unable to tell today," he said, adding that he and his staff are "looking at all possible options."

An official assessment on the college has yet to be made as about 80 volunteer students, staff, and family are cleaning up the campus.

Eliptico plans to make a statement at the end of the week, after assessments.

"Our foremost concern right now is for our students and employees, and we are reaching out to those really affected, some more than others, and seeing if they are okay and [trying] to connect them with emergency services," he said.

In order to cover the expected expenses for repair, the college has already been in preliminary talks with House Committee on Ways and Means chairman Rep. Angel A. Demapan (R-Saipan) for funding.

The NMC Tinian campus and Rota campus, according to Eliptico, also sustained damage but, like the As Terlaje campus, assessments have yet to be made. He further noted that visiting the Rota and Tinian campuses have been impossible since flights have been at a standstill up until recently.

Eliptico stated that the NMC Library and CNMI Archives would soon open to allow students to charge devices, access the internet, and just stay around to get out of their post-typhoon environment.

"NMC is more than a collection of physical structures. NMC is the spirit of the community, it is the spirit of 160 employees, and it is the spirit of 1,300 students. A storm cannot break that. It can break our facilities and our buildings, but it can't and won't break our spirit. We will be rebuilding and we will come back stronger and more resilient than we were prior," Eliptico said. "We are asking for the community's patience, and support in the meantime."

HUMANITARIAN AID SENIOR AIRMAN GERALD WILLIS

Airmen assigned to Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska, and Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, prepare a C-17 Globemaster III to provide humanitarian aid Oct. 27, 2018, at Andersen AFB, Guam. Service members from Joint Region Marianas and Indo-Pacific Command are providing Department of Defense support to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands' civil and local officials as part of the FEMA-supported Typhoon Yutu recovery efforts.

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
RFP19-CHCC/MCHB-002
HAS BEEN EXTENDED
NEW SUBMISSION DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 16, 2018 TIME: 9:00AM
TRANSLATION SERVICESMATERNAL CHILD HEALTH BUREAU
COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION
FOR RFP PACKAGES, PLEASE CONTACT CHCC PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY DIRECTOR VIA EMAIL AT PRISCILLA.IAKOPO@DPH.GOV.MP.
THE CHCC RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSALS AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN ANY PROPOSAL, IF TO DO SO SHALL BE IN THE INTEREST OF THE CHCC. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OF THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION.
/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA
CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
/S/ PRISCILLA M. IAKOPO
CHCC DIRECTOR OF P&S

Zoning Board
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950 Tel. 670-234-9661, FAX 234-9666
E-mail ZoningBoard@zoning.gov.mp
ZONING PUBLIC NOTICE
Regarding construction of permanent structures
The Zoning Board and Office ("Zoning") recognize the Major Disaster Declaration for the Island of Saipan on October 27, 2018 by the President of the United States and the State of Emergency declared by Governor Ralph Torres as a result of the devastation left behind by Super Typhoon Yutu.
The Zoning staff is ready to assist you as we recover and rebuild our community.
Accordingly, Zoning will exercise its discretion not to enforce with respect to ***temporary uses or temporary structures*** as appropriate during the State of Emergency. However, all ***permanent structures*** must comply with the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013.
Please call our office at 234-9661/2 or visit our location on the 2nd floor of the Joeten Dandan Commercial Building from 9:00am to 3:00pm, Monday to Friday, for further information and assistance prior to any construction.

JUST 5 PERCENT OF SAIPAN HAS POWER BACK

CUC works to power up Lower Base so company can provide drinking water

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

With only about 5 percent of Saipan having its power back a week after Super Typhoon Yutu's devastation, the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. is now working to restore power in Lower Base so a water company there can produce more drinking water.

With Feeder 1 already up, electric power is back in Puerto Rico, Navy Hill, Garapan, and part of China Town, according to CUC executive director Gary P. Camacho on Wednesday.

However, not everyone in those areas have power, Camacho said, as it depends on the extent of the damage to the power poles to homes or streets.

He said they are now working toward energizing water wells. "The idea is to pump water into the tanks and the tanks to the distribution system. That's our objective right now," Camacho said.

Camacho

Areas that already have power since Sunday are Puerto Rico, Navy Hill, and Garapan. After Feeder 1, CUC is now working on Feeder 7 or the Lower Base area and then further south to Middle Road.

"We are trying to work our way to the water supply company so they can provide drinking water," he said, referring to Saipan Ice & Water Co.

Camacho also disclosed that Guam Power Authority was sending 33 people yesterday, Wednesday.

He expect contractors to also come in to help rebuild. In addition, there are offers from some of the islands to assist the CNMI.

"We are trying to coordinate all of that," Camacho said.

After bringing critical power and water to the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. and Navy Hill well, CUC said more equipment and crew are coming in to assist Saipan and Tinian.

Camacho was set to fly to Tinian Wednesday as the island was also greatly affected. He said they will look into the Tinian's power and water systems and then would start preparing to deploy materials out there.

Some Saipan residents are asking why CUC is rationing water when the pipes are underground and are not affected. One resident suggested that CUC energize the wells using generators, the ones that CUC acquired after Typhoon Soudelor's destruction in 2015.

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
RFP19-CHCC/MCHB-003
HAS BEEN EXTENDED
NEW SUBMISSION DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 16, 2018 TIME: 9:00AM
ORAL HEALTH EVALUATORMATERNAL CHILD HEALTH BUREAU
COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION
FOR RFP PACKAGES, PLEASE CONTACT CHCC PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY DIRECTOR VIA EMAIL AT PRISCILLA.IAKOPO@DPH.GOV.MP.
THE CHCC RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSALS AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN ANY PROPOSAL, IF TO DO SO SHALL BE IN THE INTEREST OF THE CHCC. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OF THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION.
/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA
CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
/S/ PRISCILLA M. IAKOPO
CHCC DIRECTOR OF P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
RFP19-CHCC/MCHB-004
HAS BEEN EXTENDED
NEW SUBMISSION DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 16, 2018 TIME: 9:00AM
PROGRAM AND EVALUATION CONSULTANT MATERNAL CHILD
HEALTH BUREAU COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION
FOR RFP PACKAGES, PLEASE CONTACT CHCC PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY DIRECTOR VIA EMAIL AT PRISCILLA.IAKOPO@DPH.GOV.MP.
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/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA
CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
/S/ PRISCILLA M. IAKOPO
CHCC DIRECTOR OF P&S

Price freeze in effect for the CNMI

Consumers should be aware, and retailers are on notice, that it is illegal to engage in price gouging following a major disaster.

The Consumer Protection Act makes it unlawful for businesses to engage in price gouging. Price gouging occurs when a business increases prices based solely on a shortage of goods caused by a natural disaster or any other emergency. The Office of the Attorney General will prosecute, both criminally and civilly, any business that engages in price gouging.

Super Typhoon Yutu struck the Commonwealth on Oct. 25, 2018.

The governor declared a price freeze pursuant to the Consumer Disaster Price Freeze Act on Oct. 27, 2018, which will be in effect until he rescinds all declarations of emergency, disaster or price freeze.

The price of the following items are frozen:

■ Gasoline, kerosene, diesel fuel, natural gas, and all other chemical fuels, whether in gaseous, liquid, or solid form;

■ All foods and foodstuffs, including water, bottled water, beverages, and ice;

■ All clothing;

■ Flashlights, lamps, lanterns, candles, light bulbs, and other means of illumination;

■ Generators, cables, wires, electrical batteries of every sort, and similar equipment for the generation and/or transmission of electrical power;

■ All appliances used in the storage and/or preparation of food, including, but not limited to, stoves, barbecue grilles, ovens, refrigerators, and coolers;

■ Tools typically used for construction, ground clearing, or home repairs, whether electrically powered, chemically powered, or manual, including, but not limited to, saws, machetes, hammers, drills, shovels, rakes, and brooms.

■ All bedding items, including pillows, futons, and blankets.

It is illegal for any person or business to raise the price of any of these items while a price freeze is in effect. A violation of the Consumer Disaster Price Freeze Act is punishable by a $10,000 fine and one year of imprisonment for each violation.

Contact the Office of the Attorney General if you observe price gouging. For more information contact assistant attorney general Bob Pickett, consumer counsel of the Office of the Attorney General, at 237- 7500, or email him at consumer_counsel@cnmioag.org. Additional information can be found at www.cnmioag.org under Consumer Protection. ***(OAG)***

Northern Marianas College interim president Frankie Eliptico, center, led Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, left, and Federal Emergency Management Agency deputy regional administrator William "Bill" Roche, right, on a walkthrough inspection of the damage that Super Typhoon Yutu caused at NMC's campus. They were joined by House peaker Ralph Demapan, Rep. Angel Demapan, NMC board of regents chair Charles Cepeda, and other officials. NMC

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CALL: 1-800-985-5990

Call Disaster Distress Helpline for crisis counseling

A disaster or tragedy is unexpected and often brings out strong emotions. The Disaster Distress Helpline 1-800-985-5990 can provide immediate counseling to anyone who is seeking help in coping with the mental or emotional effects caused by Typhoon Yutu.

The Helpline is a 24-hours-a-day, seven-days-a-week resource that responds to people who need crisis counseling after experiencing a natural or human-caused disaster or tragedy.

Sponsored by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, the Helpline immediately connects callers to trained and caring professionals from the closest crisis counseling center in the nationwide network of centers. The Helpline staff will provide confidential counseling, referrals and other needed support services.

"When disaster strikes, people react with increased anxiety, worry and anger. With community and family support, most of us bounce back. Some may need extra assistance to cope with unfolding events and uncertainties," said Dr. Elinore McCance-Katz, Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use. "People seeking emotional help in the aftermath of a disaster can now call 1-800-985-5990 and begin the process of recovery."

The Disaster Distress Helpline is a national hotline dedicated to providing disaster crisis counseling. The toll-free Helpline is confidential and multilingual and available for those who are experiencing psychological distress as a result of natural or man-made disasters, incidents of mass violence or any other tragedy affecting America's communities. The Helpline complements the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the Federal Emergency Management Agency and other disaster response capacities, and is available immediately anywhere within the United States.

The helpline can also be accessed at http://disasterdistress.samhsa.gov/ ***(PR)***

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

New deadline to comment on OVR policy

Due to the devastation following Super Typhoon Yutu, the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation and the State Rehabilitation Council would like to announce that the deadline for submission of public comments on OVR's revisions to its Supported Employment Policy has been extended to Nov. 15, 2018. If you have any questions contact Josephine Tudela at jo@ovrgov.net or at 670-322-6537/8. ***(PR)***

MVA meeting postponed

The Marianas Visitors Authority's general membership meeting scheduled for Nov. 9, 2018, has been postponed until further notice. Information on a new date will be announced once confirmed. For more information, call the MVA at 1 (670) 664-3200 or email info@mymarianas.com. ***(PR)***

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS

CUC-IFB-18-022

ROTA WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS PHASE 2 PROJECT
(W17-053)

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Construction of Rota Water System Improvements Phase 2 Project in Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The project consists, in general installation of a new main waterline; connections to the existing waterlines; installation of gate valve assembly, PRV installations, PRV CMU protective boxes, flush hydrant, fencing, restoration of existing asphalt concrete road; and other related work. The work shall be done in accordance with the Project Plans and Specifications and without disruption to the daily operation of the water system.

This project is funded by a grant from the United Sates of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the approval for project award from USEPA.

*CUC requires the Project to be completed in **365 calendar days** from date of award of contract.*

Prospective Bidders for this IFB must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $200.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by a Site Visit is scheduled on **November 2, 2018 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Rota Directors Office, Sinapalo, Rota.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-IFB-18-022, Rota Water System Improvements Phase 2 Project"**, to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on November 15, 2018**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud.

Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A *Bid Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The bid guarantee may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States, Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or request for clarification regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on November 6 , 2018** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator, via email – manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to LCDR Travis Spaeth, CUC Water/Wastewater Senior Engineer – via email travis.spaeth@cucgov.org and Christie Sablan, Procurement & Supply, Administrative Support Assistant – via email christie.sablan@cucgov.org

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Administrator

Recovering From Yutu

GERALD WILLIS

A C-17 Globemaster III takes off from Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, on Oct. 27, to provide humanitarian aid to the CNMI. Service members from Joint Region Marianas and Indo-Pacific Command are providing Department of Defense support to the CNMI's civil and local officials as part of the Super Typhoon Yutu recovery efforts.

JAMES KENNEDY BENJAMIN

Guam-based Army Reserve Soldiers with the 9th Mission Support Command load their baggage and equipment onto a military vehicle at Charlie Dock, Port of Saipan, Oct. 29, after being transported by two Navy vessels from Guam in support of ongoing disaster relief effort caused by Super Typhoon Yutu.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC's Corporate Social Responsibility has reached out to employees whose homes and possessions were either damaged or lost when Super Typhoon Yutu struck the islands one week ago today.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Imperial Pacific's is using its Corporate Social Responsibility team in initiating cleanup drive as part of the company's Super Typhoon Yutu recovery initiative. Over the last three years, Imperial Pacific's CSR program has initiated, led, and piloted many community outreach programs and initiatives that promote the protection of the environment, destination enhancement, culture, education and social services.

GUAM NATIONAL GUARD

Soldiers from the Guam Army National Guard, reported to their units on Oct 29 to begin in-processing and preparing supplies, material and equipment for a mobilization to Saipan where they will support recovery efforts in the wake of Super Typhoon Yutu that devastated the island last week. An advanced group of Guam Guard soldiers arrived on Saipan on Wednesday to begin planning and logistics for the main body, part of which left Guam yesterday, while another group would depart today.

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

A Department of Public Works employee uses a backhoe/grader to gather iron sheets in the field at the Northern Marianas College Wednesday afternoon.

HOPWOOD DAMAGE

Hopwood Middle School in Chalan Piao is closed indefinitely due to the onslaught of Super Typhoon Yutu, which damaged majority of the buildings and all of the classrooms.

ERWIN ENCINARES

Tax relief for victims of Super Typhoon Yutu

Victims of Super Typhoon Yutu that took place beginning on Oct. 24, 2018, in the Northern Mariana Islands may qualify for tax relief from the Internal Revenue Service.

The President has declared that a major disaster exists in the CNMI. Following the recent disaster declaration for individual assistance issued by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the IRS announced yesterday that affected taxpayers on certain islands will receive tax relief.

Individuals who reside or have a business in the municipalities of Rota, Saipan, Tinian, and the Northern Islands may qualify for U.S. tax relief. Taxpayers concerned about how Super Typhoon Yutu may impact tax filing and payment obligations to the Northern Mariana Islands government should contact the CNMI Division of Revenue and Taxation at (670) 664-1000 or a local office on Saipan, Tinian, or Rota.

The declaration permits the IRS to postpone certain U.S. deadlines for taxpayers who reside or have a business in the disaster area. For instance, certain U.S. deadlines falling on or after Oct. 24, 2018, and before Feb. 28, 2019, are granted additional time to file through Feb. 28, 2019. This includes the quarterly U.S. estimated income tax payments due on Jan. 15, 2019, and the quarterly payroll and excise tax returns normally due on Oct. 31, 2018 and Jan. 31, 2019. It also includes U.S. tax-exempt organizations that operate on a calendar-year basis and had an automatic U.S. extension due to run out on Nov. 15, 2018.

In addition, U.S. penalties on payroll and excise tax deposits due on or after Oct. 24, 2018, and before Nov. 8, 2018, will be abated as long as the deposits are made by Nov. 8, 2018.

If an affected taxpayer receives a late filing or late payment penalty notice from the IRS that has an original or extended filing, payment or deposit due date that falls within the postponement period, the taxpayer should call the telephone number on the notice to have the IRS abate the penalty.

The IRS automatically identifies taxpayers located in the covered disaster area and applies automatic filing and payment relief. But affected taxpayers who reside or have a business located outside the covered disaster area must call the IRS disaster hotline at 866-562-5227 to request this tax relief.

Covered disaster area

The municipalities of Rota, Saipan, Tinian, and the Northern Islands constitute a covered disaster area and are entitled to relief.

Affected taxpayers

Taxpayers considered to be eligible for the postponement of time to file returns, pay taxes, and perform other time-sensitive acts are those taxpayers listed in Treas. Reg. § 301.7508A-1(d)(1), and include individuals who live, and businesses (including tax-exempt organizations) whose principal place of business is located, in the covered disaster area. Taxpayers not in the covered disaster area, but whose records necessary to meet a deadline listed in Treas. Reg. § 301.7508A-1(c) are in the covered disaster area, are also entitled to relief. In addition, all relief workers affiliated with a recognized government or philanthropic organization assisting in the relief activities in the covered disaster area and any individual visiting the covered disaster area who was killed or injured as a result of the disaster are entitled to relief.

Grant of relief

Under section 7508A, the IRS gives affected taxpayers until Feb. 28, 2019, to file most tax returns (including individual, corporate, and estate and trust income tax returns; partnership returns, S corporation returns, and trust returns; estate, gift, and generation-skipping transfer tax returns; and employment and certain excise tax returns annual information returns of tax-exempt organizations; and employment and certain excise tax returns), that have either an original or extended due date occurring on or after Oct. 24, 2018, and before Feb. 28, 2019.

Affected taxpayers that have an estimated income tax payment originally due on or after Oct. 24, 2018, and before Feb. 28, 2019, will not be subject to penalties for failure to pay estimated tax installments as long as such payments are paid on or before Feb 28, 2019. The IRS also gives affected taxpayers until Feb 28, 2019, to perform other time-sensitive actions described in Treas. Reg. § 301.7508A-1(c)(1) and Rev. Proc. 2007-56, 2007-34 I.R.B. 388 (Aug. 20, 2007), that are due to the IRS to be performed on or after Oct. 24, 2018 and before Feb. 28, 2019.

This relief also includes the filing of Form 5500 series returns, (that were required to be filed with the IRS on or after Oct. 24, 2018 and before Feb. 28, 2019, in the manner described in section 8 of Rev. Proc. 2007-56. The relief described in section 17 of Rev. Proc. 2007-56, pertaining to like-kind exchanges of property, also applies to certain taxpayers who are not otherwise affected taxpayers and may include acts required to be performed before or after the period above.

Unless an act is specifically listed in Rev. Proc. 2007-56, the postponement of time to file and pay *does not apply* to information returns in the W-2, 1094, 1095, 1097, 1098, or 1099 series; to Forms 1042-S, 3921, 3922 or 8027; or to employment and excise tax deposits. However, penalties on deposits due to the IRS on or after Oct. 24, 2018 and before Nov. 8, 2018, will be abated as long as the tax deposits are made by Nov. 8, 2018.

Casualty losses

Affected taxpayers in a federally declared disaster area have the option of claiming disaster-related casualty losses on their U.S. income tax return for either the year in which the event occurred, or the prior year. See Publication 547 for details.

Individuals may deduct personal property losses that are not covered by insurance or other reimbursements.

Affected taxpayers claiming the disaster loss on a 2017 return should put the disaster designation, "Northern Mariana Islands, Super Typhoon Yutu" at the top of the form so that the IRS can expedite the processing of the refund.

Other relief

The IRS will waive the usual fees and expedite requests for copies of previously filed tax returns for affected taxpayers. Taxpayers should put the assigned Disaster Designation "Northern Mariana Islands, Super Typhoon Yutu" in red ink at the top of Form 4506, Request for Copy of Tax Return, or Form 4506-T, Request for Transcript of Tax Return, as appropriate, and submit it to the IRS.

Affected taxpayers who are contacted by the IRS on a collection or examination matter should explain how the disaster impacts them so that the IRS can provide appropriate consideration to their case. Taxpayers may download forms and publications from the official IRS website, irs.gov, or order them by calling 800-829-3676. The IRS toll-free number for general tax questions is 800-829-1040. ***(IRS)***

MCS CLASS OF 1988 CONTRIBUTES TO YUTU RECOVERY AT ALMA MATER

As part of their 30th Year Class Reunion, Mount Carmel School Class of 1988 AlumKnights donated over $1,000 to their alma mater's recovery efforts from Super Typhoon Yutu. Several 1988 AlumKnights (from left to right, center wearing "AlumKnights" shirts: Maria Chong Muna, Jenny Mafnas Villagomez, and Debra Moore) showed up during the school's recent campus clean-up and presented their donation to the Seniors, the graduating Class of 2019.

Be safe when using a portable generator

Many residents on Saipan and Tinian are using portable generators as a result of power failure in the wake of Super Typhoon Yutu. Be aware that generators can cause dangerous hazards such as: carbon monoxide poisoning from the engine exhaust pipe, fire, and electrocution. Be sure to read the manufacturer's instructions on how to use the generator.

Here are some safety tips:

Carbon monoxide poisoning

■ Do not use a generator indoors or in partially enclosed spaces—including homes, garages, and crawl spaces—even those areas with partial ventilation.

■ Do not use a generator near open doors and windows. Using fans will not prevent carbon monoxide build-up in the home. Do not place the generator in front of open windows.

■ Do not assume that you are safe. Be aware that carbon monoxide fumes emitted by gasoline, propane, diesel, or gas engines can be fatal. As carbon monoxide is odorless people are not aware of its presence.

■ Install carbon monoxide alarms inside your home to alert you of dangerous levels. Be sure to follow the manufacturer's recommended placement.

Electrocution or electric shock

■ Always connect the generator to the appliances with heavy-duty extension cords.

■ Hooking up your generator directly into your home power supply could increase the voltage or could cause a surge to the outside power lines and potentially injure or electrocute an unaware utility lineman. It also bypasses some of the built-in household circuit protection devices. Connecting the generator to your home could cause a surge in electricity that might result in injury or death to yourself or your family.

■ Use a qualified electrician to install the appropriate equipment in accordance with local electrical codes, or ask your utility company to install an appropriate power transfer switch.

Fire

■ Keep your generator outside and fuel your generator outside.

■ Do not store fuel for your generator in your house. Gasoline, propane, kerosene, diesel and other flammable liquids should be stored outside living areas in properly labeled, non-glass safety containers.

■ Do not store fuel near a fuel-burning appliance, for example a gas stove.

■ If the fuel is spilled or the container is not sealed properly, invisible vapors from the fuel can travel along the ground and be ignited by the appliance's pilot light or by arcs from electric switches.

■ Before refueling the generator, turn it off and let it cool down. Gasoline or other flammable liquids spilled on hot engine parts could ignite, and invisible vapors from the fuel can travel along the ground and be ignited by the generator's pilot light or by arcs from electric switches in the appliance.

Follow CNMI on social media

The CNMI Joint Information Center urges the community to follow the following social media platforms to get the latest weather updates and information:

■ CNMI EOC State Warning Point Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/cnmieocswp/

■ CNMI Office of the Governor Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/CNMIGov/

■ Governor Ralph DLG. Torres Facebook: https://www.facebook.com-/ralphdlg.torres/

■ CNMI Joint Information Center: https://www.facebook.com/JICNMI/

The CNMI JIC also encourages residents to download HSEM's *readyCNMI* App available for FREE in the Apple iStore or Google PlayStore to receive the latest weather updates and notifications. ***(HSEM)***

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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EDITORIAL

An unmanned State Department can't solve crises

There are so many better ways the U.S. could have handled the slaying of Jamal Khashoggi. Within hours of his disappearance, for instance, the American ambassadors to Turkey and Saudi Arabia—seasoned professionals backed by the full authority of the president—could have tapped their contacts for information and pressed both governments for answers.

But almost two years after taking office, President Donald Trump has yet to nominate ambassadors for Turkey and Saudi Arabia. The same is true for U.S. treaty allies Australia and Thailand; critical partners such as Mexico, Singapore, Jordan and South Africa; and about 20 other posts. More than 40 ambassadorships—about a quarter of the total—also sit empty with nominees awaiting confirmation.

This dangerous gap in U.S. diplomatic representation reflects the administration's chaotic appointment process and, more troubling, its seeming contempt for the idea of nonpartisan career public servants. Of the 702 federal government positions requiring Senate confirmation, only 380 have been filled; 135 have no nominee at all.

While Democrats have held up some nominations, raw partisanship is not to blame for most of these empty seats. This administration has been slower than any of the last five to nominate officials—and it's no wonder, given Trump's leadership style. "I'm the only one that matters," he has insisted, and he routinely refuses to appoint any Republicans who have criticized him (let alone consider Democrats).

The State Department has arguably suffered the most. The Trump administration has looked at its career officials in leadership positions as Obama holdovers, and fired or demoted almost all of them. Only 18 of the 28 assistant secretary-level positions have been filled, and none with an active career professional. (Historically, these experts have held about 40 percent of such jobs.) Under former Secretary of State Rex Tillerson, budgets were slashed, promotions held back, loyalty lists compiled, and recruitment of new officers all but halted.

Similar stories have played out in other departments. The net result: a speedy exodus of experienced federal workers.

To his credit, Secretary of State Mike Pompeo has lifted his department's hiring freeze, and prodded the administration to put forward dozens of nominations. His effort to restore "swagger" to the State Department would be more effective, however, if he

See CRISES on Next Page

Trying to ban hate speech is not the answer

By ERWIN CHEMERINSKY
The Sacramento Bee

Erwin Chemerinsky is dean and professor of law at the UC Berkeley School of Law.

The wave of deeply disturbing hate crimes in recent days—the killing of two African Americans, allegedly by a white supremacist in Kentucky, the mail bombs sent to numerous former and current officials, the massacre at a synagogue in Pittsburgh—has led to new calls to ban hate speech.

Although the government may impose greater punishments on crimes motivated by hate, the law is clear that the expression of hate is protected by the First Amendment. The government cannot punish speech even if it is deeply offensive – and there is no reason to believe that censoring hate speech will make hate crimes less likely.

We only can speculate why there is a significant increase in these crimes. The Anti-Defamation League reports that anti-Semitic incidents across the country have increased dramatically.

I often have the sense that a rock has been turned over in society in the last couple of years and people are expressing and acting in a way that has not been seen for decades. And I believe that President Donald Trump's divisive rhetoric and his race-based appeals have contributed to this.

The weekend before the November 2016 election, the Trump campaign ran a two-minute closing ad that attacked financier and liberal donor George Soros, then-Federal Reserve Chairwoman Janet Yellen and then Goldman Sachs CEO Lloyd Blankfein. They are all Jewish; there is no way to understand the ad except as being blatantly anti-Semitic. Then last year, after a protestor was killed during an anti-racism march in Charlottesville, Va., Trump said there "were very fine people" marching among the neo-Nazis chanting "Jews will not replace us."

Trump has appealed to hate and stoked its flames. Yet the law is clear that he – like all Americans – has the right to do so.

In fact, the First Amendment unquestionably protects hateful speech. In the late 1970s and early 1980s, the village of Skokie – a suburb north of Chicago with a significant population of Holocaust survivors – did everything it could to keep the Nazi party from marching. But every court, including the U.S. Supreme Court, ruled that the Nazis had the constitutional right to demonstrate and express their hateful message.

In 1992, the high court declared unconstitutional an ordinance in St. Paul, Minn., that banned burning a cross or painting a swastika in a manner likely to anger, alarm, or cause resentment. The justices unanimously ruled that such symbols of hate are protected by the First Amendment.

Every European country has a law banning hate speech, so why not the United States? In part, it is the difficulty of defining hate speech in a manner that is not unduly vague or broad. Decades of efforts – by states, municipalities and universities – have demonstrated that all such codes are impermissibly vague.

Typically, in both the United States and Europe, laws prohibiting hate speech outlaw expression that "stigmatizes," "demeans," or "insults" people on the basis of race, religion, gender or sexual orientation. In the early 1990s, more than 360 U.S. colleges and universities adopted hate speech codes using language like this. Every code taken to court was declared unconstitutional.

Moreover, hate speech is protected under the Constitution because it expresses an idea, albeit a vile idea. Protecting hate speech is necessary because the alternative – granting governments the power to punish speakers they don't like – risks even greater harm.

"Speech that demeans on the basis of race, ethnicity, gender, religion, age, disability, or any other similar ground is hateful; but the proudest boast of our free speech jurisprudence is that we protect the freedom to express 'the thought that we hate,' " the Supreme Court declared in June 2017.

History shows that punishing hate speech risks creating martyrs and rallying support. There is no evidence that banning hate speech does anything to lessen the presence in society of racist ideas or even racist crimes. The law is clear that hate-motivated crimes can be subject to enhanced punishments; it is just the speech that is protected by the First Amendment.

I do not minimize the harms of hate speech, and I am truly frightened by the hate crimes of recent days. It is imperative that we reflect as a society on what is causing this and what to do about it. But censorship is not the answer.

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How Trump should, but probably won't, confront Saudi Arabia

By IVO DAALDER and JAMES LINDSAY
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

The latest Saudi explanation of what happened to journalist Jamal Khashoggi—that his murder was premeditated by his assailants—is no more acceptable an explanation than the earlier versions, that he died accidentally in a fistfight or that he left the Saudi consulate in Istanbul without leaving a trace. It defies belief that this operation wasn't ordered at the highest level.

But that's not the point. The Saudis were never going to conduct the "complete, thorough and timely investigation," as Secretary of State Mike Pompeo called for after meeting with Saudi leaders this month. Even President Donald Trump has now acknowledged as much, saying that "the cover-up was the worst in the history of cover-ups." It marks a notable change in tone by the president who initially seemed more concerned with preserving his good personal relations with the Saudis than with getting to the bottom of what happened.

But while the president's tone may have changed, his policies toward Saudi Arabia have not. "In terms of what we ultimately do ...," President Trump said recently, "I'm going to leave it up to Congress." Of course, Congress is not scheduled to return to session until the middle of next month, making the president's plan more of an intentional delay on the bet that the outrage will blow over and less of an appeal for a firm bipartisan response. The delay is just the latest such bet by Trump. From the outset of his administration, the president has doubled down on the Saudi king and his young son, Prince Mohammed bin Salman. After all, they represented the pillar of his Middle East strategy. Trump made Riyadh his first stop on his first overseas trip and assured the Saudis he would not lecture them on their human rights record and embraced their efforts to counter Iran. He stood by Prince Mohammed despite a string of reckless Saudi moves, including blockading Qatar, kidnapping the Lebanese prime minister, imprisoning hundreds of Saudi royals and businesspeople without due process, and cutting off relations with Canada over a critical tweet.

Little wonder, then, if the crown prince thought he might be able to get away with murder.

This terrible saga is but the latest proof of Trump's abdication of America's traditional global leadership. From day one, he has made a habit of cozying up to dictators and strongmen, accepting their denials, explanations and promises even when the U.S. intelligence community said all the evidence pointed the other way. Think Vladimir Putin's denial of Russian interference in the 2016 elections. Or Rodrigo Duterte's insistence that the extrajudicial killing of thousands of Filipinos was necessary to win the drug war. Or Kim Jong Un's promise to denuclearize. And now Prince Mohammed's claim that Khashoggi's death was an ordinary detention gone just a bit wrong.

It wasn't all that long ago that an American president, faced with such a horrendous abuse of power and gross violation of human rights, especially by a close partner, would have made clear his outrage and acted accordingly. Indeed, America's traditional global leadership role—as leader of the free world—would have dictated a very different response than we have seen so far.

What might such leadership entail?

■ First, Washington could turn to the United Nations Security Council and demand an international investigation, including the full cooperation of the Turkish and Saudi governments, to find out what happened to Khashoggi. Given the denials and obfuscations from Riyadh, no Saudi investigation can be considered conclusive.

■ Second, until such an investigation has been completed and those guilty are brought to justice, the United States should suspend all arms sales to Saudi Arabia, and convince its allies to do the same. The kingdom depends almost entirely upon U.S., British and French arms supplies, including for maintenance and training. That provides real leverage. The Saudis have too much invested in U.S. and Western weapons to quickly switch to Russian or Chinese substitutes.

■ Third, the time has come to pressure Riyadh to end its indiscriminate bombing and brutal war in Yemen. Prince Mohammed started this ill-fated military mission two years ago, ostensibly to prevent Iranian inroads onto the Arabian Peninsula. But the conflict has done little to blunt Iran while killing tens of thousands of Yemenis, wounding hundreds of thousands of others and leaving millions destitute, facing wide-scale famine and disease with no help in sight. Without U.S. intelligence and weapons supplies, the Saudi and United Arab Emirates bombing effort would quickly end.

Real leadership would begin with Washington reminding Riyadh that the U.S.-Saudi relationship isn't one of equals. The White House holds most of the cards, and it is high time to use them. Doing anything less will embolden Prince Mohammed to continue his reckless behavior—and risk triggering an even greater crisis—while deeply damaging America's credibility as a defender of human rights.

Ivo Daalder is president of the Chicago Council on Global Affairs. James Lindsay is senior vice president at the Council of Foreign Relations. They are co-authors of The Empty Throne: America's Abdication of Global Leadership.

Don't write off Merkel just yet

By LEONID BERSHIDSKY
Bloomberg News

Leonid Bershidsky is a Bloomberg Opinion *columnist covering European politics and business. He was the founding editor of the Russian business daily* Vedomosti *and founded the opinion website* Slon.ru.

I have warned repeatedly against writing off Chancellor Angela Merkel as she faced challenge after challenge in recent years. I'm going to issue another such warning now, even though it might seem counterintuitive given her announcement Monday that she'd give up the leadership of her Christian Democratic Union in December and not run for a parliament seat in 2021.

Those decisions make Merkel a lame duck. They also make it more obvious than ever that she risks ending her final term as chancellor before 2021. Her predecessor, Gerhard Schroeder, stepped down as leader of the Social Democratic Party in 2004 while staying on as chancellor. Merkel has long said she didn't want to follow his example, perhaps because he lost his post to her in a snap election in 2005.

And yet Merkel said Monday that she'd decided over the summer to quit the party post without giving up the chancellorship because the circumstances were right. She didn't explain her reasoning, but it's worthwhile to try to reconstruct it. It's possible that Merkel, a risk-taker despite her reputation for stolid caution, wants to be a lame duck whose wings haven't been clipped.

It's often been noted that despite her political longevity, she hasn't really secured a positive legacy because her most important and successful policy decisions were rarely of her own initiative. She went along with the Greens' vision of Energiewende, Germany's transition to sustainable energy; she bowed to leftist parties' momentum on marriage equality; the introduction of a minimum wage was a concession to the Social Democrats; the legislation requiring a balanced budget was the idea of Wolfgang Schaeuble, a patriarch of her party who is currently parliament speaker. Merkel has always been good at working within political constraints. "I'm somebody who can work with many, many people," she said Monday. "I'm known for that."

A politician with that kind of history might be tempted to work for a few years without being constrained by horse-trading and intraparty politics. Merkel unbound could surprise Germany and the world. After all, no one else can take credit for her riskier, more controversial decisions, such as phasing out nuclear energy after the Fukushima disaster or letting in 1.2 million asylum seekers in 2015 and 2016.

Instead of trying to smooth things out within the CDU or with its conservative Bavarian sister party, the Christian Social Union, Merkel the lame duck can move faster and more decisively on the European Union's post-Brexit consolidation, including a common immigration agenda and a tighter financial union; on conflict resolution in Syria, Ukraine and the Balkans; on building up the EU as a sober counterweight to President Donald Trump's U.S.; and on domestic infrastructure investment and fixing the pension system.

That the coalition government she leads includes the SPD, which has been doing horribly in the polls, may give her a chance to leave her mark. Pulling out of the coalition and forcing an early election appears suicidal for that party; on the other hand, Merkel's positions on the EU and important domestic issues are close to those of SPD leaders, and working with the chancellor after she stops looking over her shoulder to her party base could be to the Social Democrats' advantage. This could be why Andrea Nahles, the SPD leader, went out of her way to praise Merkel on Monday, saying she was glad the "hidden conflicts" within the conservative camp were in the open now.

Merkel has a stake in how those conflicts pan out. She could face a rebellion in the CDU's parliamentary faction if the next party leader is a critic such as Health Minister Jens Spahn or former CDU faction head Friedrich Merz. An uprising could force her to resign as chancellor before her term runs out or stall any agenda she might have for the next three years.

On the other hand, if a Merkel ally such as Annegret Kramp-Karrenbauer, now CDU general secretary, or some other loyalist wins the top party job, the chancellor would be free to pursue her goals while insulating the new party leader from risky decisions. (An anti-Merkel leader would have that kind of protection, too, but would be less inclined to use it without making her life difficult.)

Depending on your point of view, this scenario might turn out to be overly optimistic. Merkel could be so worn out by her recent battles that she'll take no risks and simply attempt to give her allies time to take over the party and score some political points for the next election. She could also be ousted quickly if her political adversaries force the CDU to the right in an attempt to win back the support of nationalist voters.

In political terms, 2021 is an eternity away, and Merkel is taking a gamble in trying to serve that long. But, as I've said many times, it's always a mistake to write her off. She may look wounded, but that doesn't make her weak. She may not be allowed a last run, denied an ability to say her last word, but no one will be able to blame her for not having tried.

CRISES

From Page 10

tapped career ranks for more senior positions, punished those who are still conducting political witch hunts, and invested in his workforce. A coming test will be next year's international affairs budget. Congress wisely blunted the drastic cuts the White House proposed last year. It also demanded that more Foreign Service officers be hired. Enlightened State Department leadership should make such legislative micromanagement unnecessary.

Whether they're working in foreign affairs or environmental protection, nonpartisan career public servants help keep government effective, transparent and free of corruption. Not recognizing this, Trump is decimating the government's managerial capacity, aggravating turnover, and making it harder to recruit the best and brightest to public service.

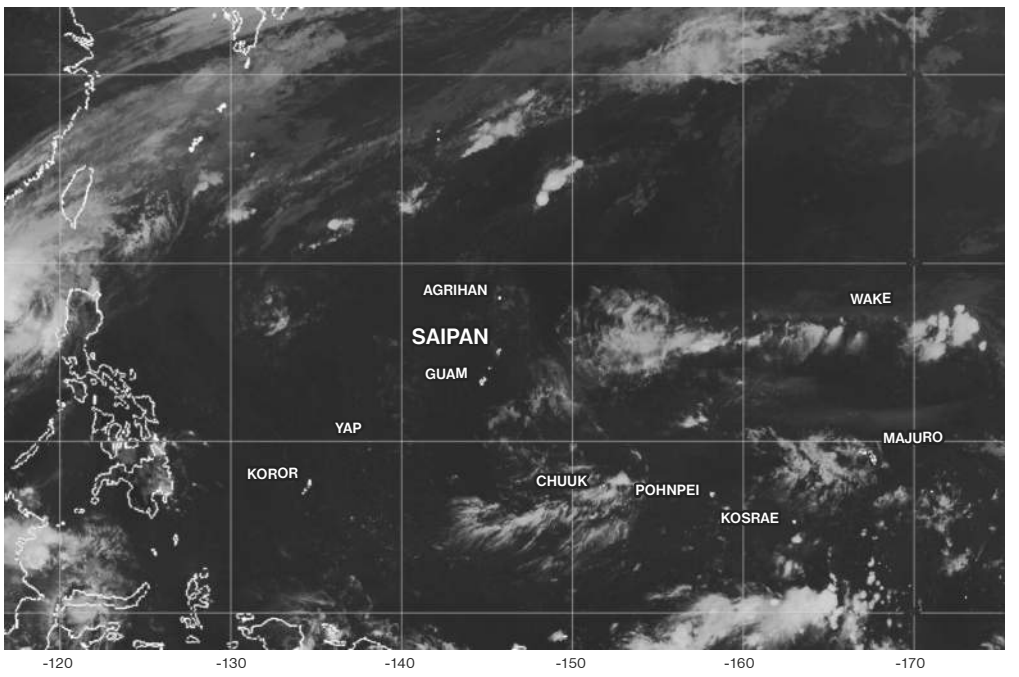
(c)2018 Bloomberg News

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. east winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 5 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲89° ▼77°	▲89° ▼77°	▲89° ▼77°	▲89° ▼77°	▲89° ▼77°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 7:00 AM, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2018
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Only updated winds with nothing else changed in forecast. Models are in agreement with a dry season weather pattern over the Marianas persisting through the weekend. While there will be patches of clouds showers the prevailing weather will be partly cloudy skies with isolated showers. East to northeast trade-winds are expected with wind speeds of 10 to 15 mph.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	86° / 80°
Palau	Partly Cloudy	87° / 78°
Yap	Thunderstorms	88° / 80°
Chuuk	Partly Cloudy	87° / 80°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	88° / 76°
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	88° / 76°
Majuro	Mostly Sunny	86° / 81°

AROUND THE GLOBE		▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Showers	61° / 52°
Beijing	Sunny	64° / 34°
Hong Kong	Showers	73° / 68°
Honolulu	Thunderstorms	86° / 76°
London	Rain	54° / 39°
Los Angeles	Mostly Sunny	83° / 59°
Manila	Thunderstorms	91° / 79°
Melbourne	Thunderstorms	86° / 54°
Miami	Thunderstorms	83° / 78°
New York	Partly Cloudy	71° / 61°
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	68° / 50°
Paris	Rain	55° / 48°
Busan	Mostly Sunny	64° / 50°
Rome	Rain	64° / 59°
Salem	Thunderstorms	73° / 57°
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	67° / 53°
Seoul	Sunny	61° / 36°
Tokyo	Sunny	64° / 50°
Washington, DC	Mostly Sunny	74° / 65°

NMI CRIME STOPPERS
Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY	FEET
07:33 AM	LOW TIDE	-0.11
3:04 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.87
8:57 PM	LOW TIDE	1.13
-	-	-

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:12 AM	5:48 PM
Friday	6:13 AM	5:47 PM
Saturday	6:13 AM	5:47 PM
Sunday	6:13 AM	5:46 PM
Monday	6:14 AM	5:46 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	1:03 PM	-
Friday	12:53 AM	1:54 PM	-
Saturday	1:52 AM	2:41 PM	-
Sunday	2:49 AM	3:27 PM	-
Monday	3:45 AM	4:10 PM	-

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF SEPTEMBER 26, 2018

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA105	4:55am	5:41am	3, 5
UA117	8:45am	9:30am	Daily

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA174	7:00am	7:45am	Daily
UA104	11:30pm	12:16am+1	2, 4

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

7C3451	3:10am	6:10am	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

7C3452	9:05pm	2:10am+1	Daily

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

TW9308	1:10am	4:10am	3, 4
TW308	1:35am	5:20am	Daily
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
TW9308	3:20am	6:30am	2
TW9308	3:25am	6:30am	5
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily
7C3401	4:10pm	7:45pm	Daily

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3402	9:30am	3:10pm	Daily
TW9307	6:30pm	12:10am+1	2, 3
TW307	7:00pm	12:35am+1	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
TW307	7:05pm	12:35am+1	1
OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
OZ625	8:40pm	2:10am+1	7
TW9307	9:00pm	2:20am+1	1
TW9307	9:05pm	2:25am+1	4
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:30am	1, 4, 5, 7

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:30pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)

JD396	7:30am	11:00am	1
JD396	4:50pm	7:55pm	4

HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN

JD395	8:05am	3:30pm	4
JD395	9:35pm	5:00am+1	7

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:35am	2, 6

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	8:20pm	2:50am+1	1, 5

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:00am	3, 5, 7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:55pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA117/183	8:45am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA117/183	8:45am	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA117/193	8:45am	10:40pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:15pm	2:10am+1	7 via ICN
UA192/174	9:45pm	7:45am+1	2, 5 via GUM-ROR
UA184/174 via GUM	10:25pm	7:45am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7
PR110/UA174	10:55pm	7:45am+1	Daily via GUM
UA184/174	11:30pm	7:45am+1	2, 5 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

HX077	2:00am	5:00am	1, 4
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:40am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UO43	5:30am	8:25am	1
UO43	6:00am	8:40am	3, 5, 7
UA117/159	8:45am	9:50pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:10pm	2:10am+1	7 via ICN
HX076	5:15pm	12:15am+1	3, 7
UO42	6:25pm	1:25am+1	7
UO42	9:25pm	4:30am+1	2, 4, 6
UA116/174	10:45pm	7:45am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The* Saipan Tribune *is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
1204	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
1205	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
1206	12:00PM	12:15PM	Daily
1207	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
1208	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
1209	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
1211	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
1212	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2102	7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
2103	8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
2104	9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
2105	10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
2106	11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
2107	12:30PM	12:45PM	Daily
2108	1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2109	2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
2110	3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
2111	4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
2112	5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
2113	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

Business

iPads, Macs get new screens as Apple pushes creativity

NEW YORK (AP)—Apple's new iPads will more closely resemble its latest iPhones as they ditch a home button and fingerprint sensor to make more room for the screen.

As with the latest iPhone models — the XR and XS —the new iPad Pro will use facial-recognition technology to unlock the device and to authorize app and Apple Pay purchases.

Apple also unveiled new Mac computers, including an overdue refresh of the MacBook Air laptop, now with a high-resolution screen.

Better screens come with price increases for both iPads and Macs.

Tuesday's announcements took place at an opera house in New York, where the company emphasized its products' ability to create music, video and sketches. Neither the Mac nor the iPad generates as much revenue for Apple as iPhones.

Tablet sales have been declining overall, though Apple saw a 3 percent increase in iPad sales last year to nearly 44 million, commanding a 27 percent market share, according to research firm IDC. Apple has been promoting its high-end iPad Pro as ideal for artists, photographers and other creators.

AP
Apple CEO Tim Cook during an event to announce new products Tuesday Oct. 30, 2018, in the Brooklyn borough of New York.

D.A. Davidson Co. analyst Tom Forte said Apple did "a nice job of rolling out next-generation devices with features customers want to sustain momentum" in iPad sales growth.

The smaller of the two new Pros will have a wider display than before when held horizontally. Its screen is 11 inches rather than 10.5 inches, measured diagonally. It starts at about $800, or $150 more than the 10.5-inch version.

For the larger, 12.9-inch model, Apple is fitting the same-size display into a smaller device — about the size of a standard sheet of paper. That starts at about $1,000, a price hike of $200.

The new iPads will have an LCD screen similar to the iPhone XR rather than the more vibrant one found in the top-of-the-line iPhone XS models. The displays on the new iPads don't run to the edges as much as they do on iPhones.

An updated pencil, still at $99, will attach magnetically to the iPad for storage and charging.

Apple is bringing a high-resolution display to its low-end MacBook Air, something until now limited to pricier models such as the MacBook Pro products. But the starting price goes up $200 to about $1,200.

The Air also joins higher-end Pros in sporting a fingerprint sensor, something the iPad just lost.

Apple also announced an updated desktop computer, the Mac Mini, starting at about $800.

The company said both Macs will use aluminum left over from producing iPads and other products.

The new MacBook Air and iPad Pros will now use a standard, oval-shaped connector called USB-C. That means accessories using the iPad's old Lightning port will need adapters, sold separately. The change will allow people to charge their iPhones through the iPad.

The Air also loses the slot for camera memory cards. An adapter costs $39.

Patrick Moorhead, founder of Moor Insights & Strategy, said the refreshed products are likely to please Apple fans and users.

"The company hadn't updated the Mac Mini for years, and the MacBook Air for a while, so these are very welcome changes," he said. But he said the new Mac features aren't significant enough to draw many people away from Windows computers.

"Overall some nice improvements, but I don't think these are game changers," he said.

All the new products come out Nov. 7.

Apple also is releasing a free software update for iPhones and iPads on Tuesday with previously announced features such as group video chats on FaceTime.

US steps up scrutiny of funds for asbestos exposure victims

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Trump administration has stepped up scrutiny of asbestos trust funds, concerned that the pots of money intended to help people exposed to the hazardous substance are being depleted by fraudulent claims, harming victims, businesses and the government.

The Justice Department in the last two months has demanded trust documents as part of a civil investigation, opposed the creation of another trust it said lacked sufficient safeguards, and argued against the appointment of a lawyer it said was too conflicted to represent victims.

The actions take aim at a system that over decades has paid out billions of dollars to the sick and cancer-stricken, but that critics say is opaque and prone to fraud and manipulation by well-connected lawyers. The government's intervention aligns it with business groups who have long complained about the process.

"We have an interest in fraud and consumer protection, so if there is fraud happening out there that is cognizable under federal law, that's the type of thing the Justice Department tends to get interested in," acting Associate Attorney General Jesse Panuccio said in an interview.

But plaintiffs' lawyers and asbestos victims' advocates say there's scant proof of widespread fraud, particularly for a system that has accommodated millions of claims. And University at Buffalo law professor S. Todd Brown said the additional government oversight, while not a bad idea, "could lead to money going to complying with this oversight rather than going to the victims."

The trusts started emerging in the 1980s, formed by makers of asbestos-containing products who sought bankruptcy protection in the face of lawsuits from people who feared they had been exposed. The maneuvering enabled the companies to shield themselves from lawsuits while setting aside money to pay pending and future claims for asbestos, an environmental hazard once found in everyday products that can lead to the deadly mesothelioma cancer and other illnesses.

The model flourished. A 2011 Government Accountability Office report identified 60 trusts formed between 1988 and 2010 that it said had paid about 3.3 million claims valued at more than $17 billion.

Lawyers for asbestos victims say the process enables people to obtain compensation for catastrophic illness without drawn-out lawsuits.

Progress? Gridlock? How midterm vote could affect US economy

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Donald Trump has warned that if Democrats regain political power in the midterm elections, the U.S. economy would essentially implode.

Democrats, he insists, would push tax hikes and environmental restrictions that stifle growth. Undocumented immigrants would steal jobs and unleash a crime wave that would halt commerce. Health insurance would devolve into a socialist program offering shoddy care at unsustainable cost.

"At stake in this election," Trump declared at a rally in Houston, "is whether we continue the extraordinary prosperity that we've all achieved or whether we let the radical Democrat mob take a giant wrecking ball and destroy our country and our economy."

Almost no private economist agrees with Trump's portrait of a financial apocalypse.

If Democrats win control of the House in next week's congressional elections, their legislative priorities wouldn't likely much alter a $20 trillion economy. For one thing, Trump would remain able to block Democratic initiatives—just as they could stop his plans for more tax cuts and a 5 percent cut to Cabinet department budgets.

What instead would likely result is continued gridlock—perhaps even more entrenched than what exists now in Washington. Arrayed against a stout Republican majority in the Senate, a Democratic House majority couldn't do much to reorder the economy, which typically hinges more on the willingness of consumers and businesses to spend and on the state of the global economy than on government policy priorities.

"It's probably not that much of a change," Beth Ann Bovino, chief U.S. economist at S&P Global, said of the likely outcome. "While you might see further gridlock if the Democrats take the House, that doesn't mean it would tip the boat and slow growth."

Many polls and analyses suggest—though hardly assure—that the Democrats could regain a majority in the House if their voters turn out in sufficient numbers in key races. If so, Trump would have to contend with a divided government instead of one with Republicans in complete control. Yet depending on voter turnout, it's also possible that the Republicans could maintain their hold on both the House and the Senate.

Analysts at Goldman Sachs and Morgan Stanley foresee a divided government as most probable. So do their peers at Oxford Economics and Keefe Bruyette & Woods.

"The most likely political consequences would be an increase in investigations and uncertainty surrounding fiscal deadlines," Goldman Sachs concluded in a client note.

Oxford Economics' senior economist, Nancy Vanden Houten, has suggested that the Republicans' legislative agenda would stall if they lost the House.

"A Democrat-controlled House would, in our view, be a line of defense against further tax cuts, reduced entitlement spending and efforts to repeal the Affordable Care Act," she said

The economy has enjoyed an acceleration in growth this year—to a gain estimated to be 3 percent after deficit-funded tax cuts. Unemployment is at a 49-year low of 3.7 percent, and employers continue to post a record number of jobs openings. The economic expansion is already the second-longest on record.

STOCK PORTFOLIO

LEADING INDICATORS

DOW	S&P	NASDAQ
24,874.64	2,682.63	7,161.65
+431.72	+41.38	+111.36
+1.77%	+1.57%	+1.58%

EXCHANGE RATES

In U.S. dollar terms

Australian Dollar	1.4102	Hong Kong Dollar	7.8457	Russian Ruble	65.5982
British Pound	0.7864	Indian Rupee	73.2983	Singapore Dollar	1.3855
Canadian Dollar	1.0084	Japanese Yen	113.2870	South Korean Won	1107.93
Chinese Yuan	1.3125	Malaysian Ringgit	4.1379	Swiss Franc	1.0051
Euro	0.8819	New Zealand Dollar	1.5271	Taiwan Dollar	30.2603
		Philippine Peso	52.4862	Thailand Baht	33.2015

Nation

Trumps pay tribute at synagogue where 11 were fatally shot

PITTSBURGH (AP)—One stone and one white rosebud for each victim.

President Donald Trump and first lady Melania Trump paid homage Tuesday to each of the 11 people slain in the worst instance of anti-Semitic violence in American history. As the Trumps placed their tributes outside the Tree of Life synagogue, protesters nearby shouted that the president was not welcome.

The emotional, dissonant scene reflected the increasingly divided nation that Trump leads, one gripped by a week of political violence and hate and hurtling toward contentious midterm elections that could alter the path of a presidency.

On their arrival in Pittsburgh, the Trumps entered the vestibule of the synagogue, where they lit candles for each victim before stepping outside. Shouts of "Words matter!" and "Trump, go home!" could be heard from demonstrators gathered not far from where a gunman had opened fire on Saturday.

Rabbi Jeffrey Myers, who had been conducting services when the shots rang out, gestured at the white Star of David posted for each victim. At each, the president placed a stone, a Jewish burial tradition, while the first lady added a flower. They were trailed by first daughter Ivanka Trump and her husband, Jared Kushner, who are Jewish.

Near the synagogue, flowers, candles and chalk drawings filled the corner, including a small rock painted with the number "6,000,011," adding the victims this week to the estimated number of Jews killed in the Holocaust.

The Trumps later spent more than an hour at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, where some of the victims are recovering. The couple's motorcade passed several hundred protesters on the street and a sign that said "It's your fault." Inside, Trump visited with wounded police officers and spent an hour with the widow of victim Dr. Richard Gottfried, according to White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders.

Trump stepped into the role of national consoler, a title he wears uncomfortably, with his visit to the Squirrel Hill neighborhood. More at home waging partisan warfare than assuaging America's grief, Trump has shied away from public displays of unity in the wake of other tragedies.

Sanders said Trump did not speak publicly Tuesday to denounce anti-Semitism because he has spoken about it before.

"He wanted today to be about showing respect for the families and the friends of the victims as well as for Jewish Americans," Sanders said.

Questions have long swirled about the president's credibility as a unifier. Since his 2016 Republican campaign for the White House, Trump has at times been slow to denounce white nationalists, neo-Nazis and other hate-filled individuals and groups that found common cause with his nationalistic political rhetoric.

Trump traveled to the historic hub of the city's Jewish community as the first funerals were held for the victims, who range in age from 54 to 97. The dead include a set of brothers, a husband and wife, professors, dentists and a physician.

Hundreds of protesters assembled to show their displeasure with Trump's presence, some carrying signs that said "Hate has No Home in Squirrel Hill" and "Trump Loves Nazis."

Squirrel Hill resident Paul Carberry said Trump should not have visited until the dead were buried.

AP

First lady Melania Trump, accompanied by President Donald Trump, puts down a white flower at a memorial for those killed at the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh, Tuesday, Oct. 30, 2018.

Trump targets citizenship, stokes pre-election migrant fears

WASHINGTON (AP)—Thousands of U.S. troops to stop an "invasion" of migrants. Tent cities for asylum seekers. An end for the Constitution's guarantee of birthright citizenship.

With his eyes squarely on next Tuesday's elections, President Donald Trump is rushing out hardline immigration declarations, promises and actions as he tries to mobilize supporters to retain Republican control of Congress. His own campaign in 2016 concentrated on border fears, and that's his final-week focus in the midterm fight.

"This has nothing to do with elections," the president insists. But his timing is striking.

Trump says he will send more than 5,000 military troops to the Mexican border to help defend against caravans of Central American migrants who are on foot hundreds of miles away. Tent cities would not resolve the massive U.S. backlog of asylum seekers. And most legal scholars say it would take a new constitutional amendment to alter the current one granting citizenship to anyone born in America.

Still, Trump plunges ahead with daily alarms and proclamations about immigration in tweets, interviews and policy announcements in the days leading up to elections that Democrats hope will give them at least partial control of Congress.

President Donald Trump is intensifying his hardline immigration rhetoric declaring that he wants to order the end of the constitutional right to citizenship for babies of noncitizens and unauthorized immigrants born in the United States. (Oct. 30)

Trump and many top aides have long seen the immigration issue as the most effective rallying cry for his base of supporters. The president had been expected to make an announcement about new actions at the border on Tuesday, but that was scrapped so he could travel instead to Pittsburgh, where 11 people were massacred in a synagogue on Saturday.

Between the shootings, the deadliest attack on Jews in U.S. history, and the mail bomb scare targeting Democrats and a media organization, the caravan of migrants slowly trudging north had faded from front pages and cable TV.

But with well-timed interviews on Fox and "Axios on HBO," Trump revived some of his hardest-line immigration ideas:

— An executive order to revoke the right to citizenship for babies born to non-U.S. citizens on American soil.

— And the prolonged detention of anyone coming across the U.S.-Mexico border, including those seeking asylum, in "tent cities" erected "all over the place."

The administration on Monday also announced plans to deploy 5,200 active duty troops—double the 2,000 who are in Syria fighting the Islamic State group—to the border to help stave off the caravans.

The main caravan, still in southern Mexico, was continuing to melt away—from the original 7,000 to about 4,000—as a smaller group apparently hoped to join it.

Trump insists his immigration moves have nothing to do with politics, even as he rails against the caravans at campaign rallies.

"I've been saying this long before the election. I've been saying this before I ever thought of running for office. We have to have strong borders," Trump told Fox News host Laura Ingraham in an interview Monday.

Critics weren't buying it.

"They're playing all of us," said David W. Leopold, an immigration attorney and counsel to the immigration advocacy group America's Voice. "This is not about locking people up. This is not about birthright citizenship. This is about winning an election next week."

Utility says its equipment helped spark huge California fire

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Southern California Edison said Tuesday its equipment likely sparked one of two ignition points for the massive wildfire that tore through California's central coast last year.

Witnesses reported flames near the company's power poles in Ventura County last December and the utility "believes that its equipment was associated with this ignition," Edison said.

Dozens of lawsuits allege Edison equipment caused the deadly Thomas Fire, but the statement marked the first time the company made such an acknowledgment.

Edison hasn't determined if its equipment started the second ignition point nearly 6 miles (10 kilometers) away.

The admission was made as red flag warnings for increased fire danger went up across the state amid dry, gusty winds.

Fire officials declined to comment on Edison's statement because no official cause of the blaze has been determined. A multi-agency investigation is continuing.

Investigators were looking at "every possibility" ranging from weather to human or even animal factors, and the nearly year-long probe probably won't be completed for at least another 30 days, Ventura County fire Capt. Stan Ziegler said.

The Thomas Fire was the second-largest in California history, scorching 440 square miles (1,140 sq. kilometers) and destroying more than 1,000 buildings in Ventura and Santa Barbara counties. Two people died.

A month later, heavy rains fell on hills left bare by the fire, unleashing mudslides that killed 21 and left two missing.

Edison's disclosure came as an update to investors but was released publicly to keep communities and customers informed, the company said.

Robert Curtis, an attorney representing 450 victims of the fire and resulting mudslides, said he believed that Edison made the admission because witnesses already have come forward to say they believe the utility's equipment was involved.

"They did it because they're faced with insurmountable evidence that it's their responsibility," he said.

Curtis' firm is one of several representing thousands of fire and mudslide victims in a consolidated suit that will be heard in Los Angeles.

The announcement came weeks after Gov. Jerry Brown signed legislation allowing utilities to bill customers to pay for future legal settlements due to 2017 wildfires.

Asia

Possible seabed position of crashed Lion Air jet located

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP)— A massive search effort has identified the possible seabed location of the crashed Lion Air jet, Indonesia's military chief said Wednesday, as experts carried out the grim task of identifying dozens of body parts recovered from a 15-nautical-mile-wide search area.

The 2-month-old Boeing plane plunged into the Java Sea on Monday just minutes after takeoff from Jakarta, killing all 189 people on board.

"This morning I've been briefed by the head of Search and Rescue Agency about the strong possibility of the location coordinates" of Flight 610, said armed forces chief Hadi Tjahjanto. "We're going to see it ourselves on location. And hopefully that is the main body of the plane that we've been looking for."

The disaster has reignited concerns about safety in Indonesia's fast-growing aviation industry, which was recently removed from European Union and U.S. blacklists, and also raised doubts about the safety of Boeing's new generation 737 MAX 8 plane.

Boeing Co. experts are expected to arrive in Indonesia on Wednesday and Lion Air has said an "intense" internal investigation is underway in addition to the probe by safety regulators.

Locating the fuselage will bring the search effort closer to finding the airplane's flight recorders, which are crucial to the accident investigation.

An investigator walks amid debris of Lion Air Flight 610 retrieved from the waters off Tanjung Priok in Jakarta, Indonesia, Wednesday, Oct. 31, 2018. AP

Navy officer Haris Djoko Nugroho, interviewed by Indonesian television at the search location, said the 22-meter (72-foot) long object is at a depth of 32 meters (105 feet).

He said divers will be deployed after side-scan sonar has produced more detailed images. He said it was first located on Tuesday evening.

"There are some small objects that we found, but last night, thank God, we found a large enough object," he said.

Data from flight-tracking sites show the plane had erratic speed and altitude in the early minutes of a flight on Sunday and on its fatal flight Monday. Safety experts caution, however, that the data must be checked for accuracy against the plane's black boxes, which officials are confident will be recovered.

Passengers on the Sunday flight from Bali to Jakarta have recounted problems that included a long-delayed takeoff for an engine check and terrifying descents in the first 10 minutes in the air.

Lion Air has said maintenance was carried out on the aircraft after the Sunday flight and a problem, which it didn't specify, was fixed.

Officials said the non-stop search effort has sent 48 body bags containing human remains to police identification experts.

Anguished family members have been providing samples for DNA tests and police say results are expected within 4-8 days.

Musyafak, the head of Said Sukanto Police Hospital, said nearly 150 samples for testing have been collected but more are still needed, especially from parents and children of victims.

Lion Air's President Edward Sirait told The Associated Press that timing of a meeting with Boeing experts is still uncertain. Daniel Putut, a Lion Air managing director, said Tuesday evening the airline hopes to meet with Boeing officials on Wednesday afternoon.

"Of course there are lots of things we will ask them, we all have question marks here, 'Why? What's the matter with this new plane,'" Putut said.

Indonesia's Transport Ministry has ordered all Boeing 737 MAX 8 planes operated by Lion Air and national carrier Garuda to be inspected. Lion has ordered 50 of the jets, worth an estimated $6.2 billion, and currently operates nine.

Boeing declined to comment about potential inspections globally.

The aircraft manufacturer told airlines in a bulletin, "Boeing has no recommended operator action at this time," according to two people familiar with the matter.

The crash is the worst airline disaster in Indonesia since an AirAsia flight from Surabaya to Singapore plunged into the sea in December 2014, killing all 162 on board.

Indonesian airlines were barred in 2007 from flying to Europe because of safety concerns, though several were allowed to resume services in the following decade. The ban was completely lifted in June. The U.S. lifted a decadelong ban in 2016.

Lion Air, a discount carrier, is one of Indonesia's youngest and biggest airlines, flying to dozens of domestic and international destinations. It has been expanding aggressively in Southeast Asia, a fast-growing region of more than 600 million people.

ASIA BRIEFS

US reassures Taiwan on security as China increases threats

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP)— Washington's de facto ambassador to Taiwan has reassured the self-governing island of American security backing against threats from China. Brent Christensen said Wednesday that the U.S. considered any attempt to determine Taiwan's future by "other than peaceful means" to be a threat to regional security and a matter of "grave concern" to the United States. China considers Taiwan its own territory to be absorbed using force if deemed necessary and has lately stepped up its threats in an attempt to undermine President Tsai Ing-wen. The U.S. cut formal ties with Taiwan in 1979 to recognize Beijing but the sides maintain robust unofficial military and diplomatic ties. Christensen also said the U.S. would push for Taiwan's participation in the international community that Beijing increasingly seeks to restrict.

Chinese intelligence officers charged in US aviation hacking

LOS ANGELES (AP)— Chinese intelligence officers and hackers working for them have been charged with commercial espionage that included trying to steal information on commercial jet engines, federal prosecutors said Tuesday. The indictments named two officers working for the Nanjing-based foreign intelligence arm of China's Ministry of State Security and six other defendants who allegedly conspired from 2010 to 2015 to steal sensitive turbofan engine technology used in commercial aviation. The hackers used spear phishing to deploy malware and other means to intrude into a French aerospace company that was developing the engines with a U.S. company, prosecutors said. The suspects also hacked into aerospace companies in Massachusetts, Oregon and Arizona that manufactured engine parts. A Chinese state-owned aerospace company was working at the time to develop a similar type of engine for use in commercial aircraft.

Hong Kong journalist, martial arts novelist Louis Cha dies

HONG KONG (AP)— Louis Cha, a Hong Kong journalist and best-selling Chinese martial arts novelist, has died at age 94 after a long illness. The Hong Kong newspaper founded by Cha, Ming Pao Daily News, said he passed away Tuesday at a Hong Kong hospital. Cha's novels about ancient Chinese swordsmen have sold millions and are among the most widely read in the Chinese-speaking world. They inspired film adaptations, TV and radio dramas, comic books and videogames, and greatly influenced Hong Kong popular culture. They include "The Heaven Sword and the Dragon Saber," about a kindhearted hero who is indecisive but uses his kung fu skills to unify a divided gang and is elected its leader, and "The Eagle-Shooting Heroes," about a tragic hero who sacrifices his life in guarding the country against invading Mongolians. Cha was born in 1924 in Hangzhou in mainland China and graduated from the Law School of Suzhou in 1948, the South China Morning Post said. He had planned to become a diplomat, but began work as a journalist in 1947 to support his studies. The communist revolution in 1949 closed off his opportunities to enter diplomacy.

Court orders Japan company to pay 4 Koreans for forced labor

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)— In a potentially far-reaching decision, South Korea's Supreme Court ruled that a major Japanese steelmaker should compensate four South Koreans for forced labor during Japan's colonial rule of the Korean Peninsula before the end of World War II.

The long-awaited ruling, delivered Tuesday after more than five years of deliberation at Seoul's top court, could have larger implications for similar lawsuits that are pending in South Korea and will likely trigger a diplomatic row between the Asian U.S. allies.

Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe said Tokyo will respond "resolutely" to the ruling, which he described as "impossible in light of international law." He said the ruling violated a 1965 treaty between Seoul and Tokyo that was accompanied by Japanese payments to restore diplomatic ties. Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Kono said Japan could potentially take the case to the International Court of Justice.

"Today's ruling by the South Korean Supreme Court has one-sidedly and fundamentally damaged the legal foundation of Japan-South Korea relations," Kono said.

South Korean President Moon Jae-in had no immediate reaction to the ruling. South Korean Foreign Ministry spokesman Noh Kyu-duk said Tokyo and Seoul "should gather wisdom" to prevent the ruling from negatively affecting their relations.

The court said Japan's Nippon Steel & Sumitomo Metal Corp. should provide compensation of 100 million won ($87,680) to each of the four plaintiffs, who were forced to work at Japanese steel mills from 1941 to 1943. Among them, only 94-year-old Lee Chun-sik has survived the legal battle, which extended nearly 14 years.

World

Migrants to rest, hope to win mass transport to Mexico City

JUCHITAN, Mexico (AP)—Thousands of Central American migrants in a caravan traveling through Mexico planned to rest at least a day or longer in the southern city of Juchitan beginning Wednesday, hoping to organize mass transport northward after days of hard walking in tropical temperatures that have left them about 900 miles from the nearest U.S. border crossing.

A second, smaller group, of 1,000 or so migrants who forced their way into Mexico on Monday was trailing some 250 miles back, stopping for the night in the city of Tapachula.

At a Tuesday evening assembly, participants in the bigger group named a committee to negotiate with Mexican authorities over a possible "bridge plan" that could leapfrog them to the Mexico's capital by bus. There was no indication from officials whether the request to transport the perhaps 4,000 people remaining in the group would be granted.

Starting out in Honduras more than two weeks ago, the caravan migrants have spent their nights camping out in the main squares of small cities in the southern states of Chiapas and now Oaxaca. But a deadly earthquake last year destroyed Juchitan's central market, prompting it to be provisionally moved to the main square — meaning there was no room for them there.

AP

A woman holding her baby hitches a ride on the fender of a tanker in Niltepec, Mexico, Tuesday, Oct. 30, 2018.

Instead they spent the night on a municipal-owned lot on the outskirts of town where a high ceiling sheltered a cement floor. Outside the structure many more bedded down on blankets or cardboard sheets in the grass, with some lashing tarps to the foliage for rudimentary shelter.

Full tanks of water were set up for people to be able to bathe, and a large video screen showed soccer programming and then cartoons for the kids.

The two groups combined represent just a few days' worth of the average flow of migrants to the United States. Similar caravans have occurred regularly over the years, passing largely unnoticed, but the new ones have become a hot-button political issue amid an unprecedented pushback from U.S. President Donald Trump.

With just a week to U.S. midterm elections, the Pentagon has announced it will deploy 5,200 troops to the Southwest border, and Trump has continued to tweet and speak about the migrants. On Monday he said he wants to build tent cities to house asylum seekers, and Tuesday he floated the possibility of ending the constitutional right to U.S. citizenship for babies born in the country to non-citizens. Experts widely dismissed the idea that the president could unilaterally change the rules on who is a citizen and said it's highly questionable whether an act of Congress could do it, either.

Source: AP
Graphic: TNS

"According to what they say, we are not going to be very welcome at the border," Honduran migrant Levin Guillen said when asked about Trump. "But we are going to try."

Guillen, a 23-year-old farmer from Corinto, Honduras, said he had been getting threats back home from the same people who killed his father 18 years ago. He has been on his own since his mother died four years ago, and he hopes to reach an aunt who lives in Los Angeles and have a chance to work and live in peace.

"We just want to a way to get to our final goal, which is the border," he said.

Worn down from long miles of walking and frustrated by the slow progress, many migrants have been dropping out and returning home or applying for protected status in Mexico. The initial group is already significantly diminished from its estimated peak at over 7,000-strong. A caravan in the spring ultimately fizzled to just about 200 people who reached the U.S. border at San Diego.

End of austerity? Britain's poor to see little improvement

LONDON (AP)—Much of Britain will continue to feel the effects of eight years of spending cuts, even after the government's Treasury chief heralded the end of austerity by splashing out billions of pounds for health, transportation and small business in his latest budget.

As the country prepares for a potential economic hit from leaving the European Union in March, the government is trying to shore up confidence by easing up on the budget cutbacks it has been pushing through since the financial crisis.

Prime Minister Theresa May this month declared the end is nigh for austerity—a broad term for real cuts to spending on public services. Chancellor of the Exchequer Philip Hammond in Monday's budget presentation gave an additional $20.5 billion pounds a year to the National Health Service, but acknowledged there was little left for other programs.

That means spending on public services, from local government to prisons, is likely to fall, according to analysis by the Resolution Foundation, which campaigns for improved living standards.

"The chancellor has significantly eased—but not ended—austerity for public services," said the foundation's director, Torsten Bell. "Tough times are far from over."

The budget included some income tax cuts and benefit giveaways, but they will favor the wealthy, the foundation says: the top 10 percent of households get 410 pounds a year from the budget. The poor, 30 pounds. Parts of the government face cuts averaging 3 percent annually for the next four years.

Hammond told the BBC on Tuesday that his budget set out a better future for Britain.

"We've turned a very important corner here in putting the public finances right, and that means better news for the British people going forward," he said.

The idea that austerity might be ending makes the volunteers who run a small food bank at the Bridgelink Centre in the west London borough of Hounslow shake their heads in disbelief. They see first-hand what it is like to be poor. The food bank here is basically a closet commandeered by Ivybridge Community Chaplain Fi Budden, who realized people would go hungry for want of the bus fare to get to other nearby food banks. It helped 460 people last year, up from 275 in 2015.

"Food banks are really busy, now, aren't they?" said Gemma Flower, a volunteer who noted that changes to welfare benefits are making things worse. "If anything, it's got us busier and busier. We invite Theresa May to come here and see how we live."

The center is just one outpost of those squeezed by the cuts.

Last month, thousands of school principals played truant and marched to the prime minister's office to demand increased funding; police are warning that they don't have the resources to fight rising crime; councils nationwide say basic services are being cut.

Further complicating the picture, the government is loath to increase taxes, and it is pushing ahead with plans to roll out a new comprehensive welfare program that critics say will leave the most vulnerable worse off. Though Hammond promised an extra 1 billion pounds over five years for the Universal Credit benefit program, critics continue to press for the program to be scrapped all together.

Khashoggi's fiancee calls on Trump to prevent 'cover-up'

ISTANBUL (AP)—The Turkish fiancee of slain journalist Jamal Khashoggi has called on President Donald Trump and other leaders to ensure that his death in Istanbul is not covered up, while Saudi Arabia's top prosecutor on Tuesday visited the Saudi Consulate where officials from his government killed the writer.

Speaking at a memorial in London on Monday, Hatice Cengiz expressed disappointment in the "leadership of many countries." Singling out Trump, she urged him to "help reveal the truth and ensure justice be served."

"He should not pave the way for a cover-up of my fiance's murder. Let's not let money taint our conscience and compromise our values," she said.

Cengiz also told the memorial that she wishes she had entered the consulate instead of Khashoggi, a Washington Post columnist who had written critically of Saudi Arabia's crown prince.

Khashoggi vanished after entering the consulate in Istanbul on Oct. 2 to pick up paperwork for his upcoming marriage with Cengiz, who was waiting for him outside.

Turkey alleges a Saudi hit squad from Saudi Arabia traveled to Istanbul to kill the journalist and then tried to cover it up. Under mounting pressure, Saudi Arabia changed its narrative about Khashoggi's killing several times, eventually admitting that Khashoggi died inside the consulate and only recently acknowledging that Turkish evidence shows his killing was premeditated.

In an interview with ABC News, Cengiz said Khashoggi had been worried about being spirited back to Saudi Arabia the first time he went to the consulate unannounced on Sept. 28, but was pleasantly surprised when he received a warm reception.

"Naturally, after the first positive visit we had no reasons to think that there would be any sort of danger," Cengiz told ABC. "Our second visit was full of hope and it was the last step to our union."

She said during the memorial: "If only I knew that would be the last time I would see my Jamal, his smile, hear his laughter, I would have stood in front of that murderous team myself."

Cengiz last week declined an invitation by the White House, criticizing Trump's statements on Khashoggi's killing.

Saudi Arabia's top prosecutor, Saud al-Mojeb, arrived at Istanbul's main courthouse Tuesday for more talks with Istanbul's chief public prosecutor, Irfan Fidan, on the investigation into the killing, Turkey's state-run Anadolu Agency reported. The two had met for an hour and 15 minutes on Monday as part of an agreement between Riyadh and Ankara for cooperation over the investigation.

Al-Mojeb then went to the consulate and left after spending a little over an hour there.

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said the investigation needs to be completed swiftly.

"This needs to be solved now; there is no point in excuses," Erdogan told journalists.

Erdogan said the prosecutor repeated to his Saudi counterpart Turkey's extradition request for 18 suspects detained in Saudi Arabia for the killing to be put on trial in Istanbul. Fidan asked al-Mojeb to reveal who sent this group, according to the president.

The country is also asking Saudi Arabia to help locate Khashoggi's body, which still has not been found. Erdogan said Riyadh must disclose the identity of an alleged local collaborator said to have been involved in disposing Khashoggi's body.

The U.N. human rights chief, Michelle Bachelet, also urged Saudi Arabia to reveal the location of the writer's remains.

Environment

A member of the Bageni family rests near family members in the Mikeno Sector of Virunga National Park on Sept. 23, 2014. Gorillas are one of my species that have declined in the last several decades. TNS

Wildlife declined by 60 percent globally in 40 years, World Wildlife Fund says

By FRANK KUMMER
THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER

The World Wildlife Fund has released a report saying it has found an "astonishing" 60 percent decline in wildlife populations globally over the last 40 years, mostly due to human activity, including climate change and habitat loss.

"This report sounds a warning shot across our bow. Natural systems essential to our survival—forests, oceans, and rivers—remain in decline. Wildlife around the world continue to dwindle," said Carter Roberts, president and chief executive officer of WWF-US. "It reminds us we need to change course. It's time to balance our consumption with the needs of nature, and to protect the only planet that is our home."

The group's biennial report, released Monday, said it measured trends in 16,704 populations of 4,005 species of birds, mammals, reptiles, amphibians and fish. The biggest declines were among creatures that live in fresh water, which faced an even bigger 83 percent drop. South and Central America were hit hardest as rain forests shrank, with 20 percent of the Amazon disappearing.

"Humanity and the way we feed, fuel, and finance our societies and economies is pushing nature and the services that power and sustain us to the brink," the report states.

Human activity has had an impact on oceans, forests, coral reefs, wetlands and mangroves, the report says. The globe has lost about half its shallow-water corals in the last 30 years.

"From rivers and rain forests, to mangroves and mountainsides, across the planet our work shows that wildlife abundance has declined dramatically since 1970," said Ken Norris, director of science at the Zoological Society of London, which provided one of three indexes used to write the report. "The statistics are scary, but all hope is not lost. We have an opportunity to design a new path forward that allows us to coexist sustainably with the wildlife we depend upon. Our report sets out an ambitious agenda for change."

As an example of the trend, Temple University biologist S. Blair Hedges reported Tuesday in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences that he and a team of researchers had found a near-total loss of Haiti's primary forest and a mass extinction of species. Hedges and his colleagues scrutinized aerial photography and Landsat images from 1988 to 2016, finding that forests covered 4.4 percent of Haiti's land in 1988. That plunged to 0.32 percent by 2016.

John Cecil, vice president for stewardship at New Jersey Audubon, said that he had not yet seen the World Wildlife Fund report, but that it was in line with previous research.

"We're finding a broad decline in species across the board," Cecil said, noting exceptions, such as white-tailed deer and Canada geese. "There are a lot of species out there not threatened with immediate extinction, but compared to 50 or 100 years ago, their populations have declined dramatically."

Previously, habitat loss was by far the biggest driver of species loss, he said. Now, he cites climate change and invasive species as among the top reasons. Both alter the habitat, for example, of birds who can no longer find the insects they once fed on or plant life they depended on because "they're all interconnected."

"The birds are failing where the non-native species are taking over," Cecil said. "We're seeing major changes. These global trends are consistent in the United States and East Coast."

More positively, the World Wildlife Fund report said habitat restoration and other actions have worked, citing population increases in giant pandas, mountain gorillas and endangered dolphins.

It singled out the U.S. Endangered Species Act of 1973 as helping "an estimated 99 percent of listed species avoid extinction."

Among other findings:

- Habitat suitable for mammals dropped 22 percent from 1970 to 2010, with the greatest declines in the Caribbean, where it exceeded 60 percent.
- The index measuring extinction risk for birds, mammals, amphibians, corals and cycads (an ancient group of plants) showed declines for all groups, with species moving more rapidly toward extinction.
- Humans have already pushed some areas beyond their limits through climate change, loss of biosphere, nitrogen and phosphorous flows, and land-use change.
- Ninety percent of the world's seabirds are estimated to have plastic fragments in their stomachs.

Life & Style

Godzilla back as animation has human drama, fewer monsters

TOKYO (AP)—Godzilla is stomping back into theaters as a fire-breathing animated character, though the movie chosen to close this year's Tokyo International Film Festival is more focused on human drama than the monsters that have made the franchise famous.

The two directors of "Godzilla: The Planet Eater" acknowledge that their film is so different it might turn off hard-core fans. But they say that's an intentional attempt to reach out to new audiences.

"We welcome getting bashed by the traditionalists," Hiroyuki Seshita, one of the directors, told The Associated Press last week. "That proves more than anything we succeeded in creating something different."

A mutation caused by nuclear testing, the first Godzilla emerged from the ocean in a 1954 film directed by Ishiro Honda. Godzilla flattened much of Tokyo as crowds fled in terror, and went on to become an eternal symbol of human fallacy in the atomic age.

The latest film completes a three-part animated saga that began last year. It premiers Nov. 3, Godzilla's official birthday, the date the first film was released.

Seshita and co-director Kobun Shizuno said that rather than simply transferring the well-known tale into a computer animation, they have focused on what they call Shakespearean "human drama." They tackle complex issues, including the meaning of religion, in a futuristic post-apocalyptic universe.

While Godzilla still has its screech and menacingly gigantic shape, it hardly engages in battles with other monsters, a trademark of the mega-series from Toho Co.

"We kept all that is Godzilla-like—its design and how it's portrayed on film. We have kept its essence," said Seshita, who has served as art director of the "Final Fantasy" movies.

Although some viewers may find the story rather complicated, Seshita said the film chose to interpret the Godzilla saga as what he called "a kind of animism," or a godlike force that is bigger than human existence, a perspective he said was integral to Japanese culture and storytelling.

The hero is a doe-eyed, rock-star-like Japanese man who is selflessly determined to reclaim planet Earth, which has been left in shambles from Godzilla's havoc.

Humans have been relegated to wandering around in space, surviving in a gigantic spaceship that's factory-like and sterile, unlike the lush greenness that was once home.

Guitarist Jimmy Page looks back at 50 years of Led Zeppelin

This Oct. 10, 2018 photo shows Jimmy Page posing for a portrait at the Fender Factory in Corona, Calif. AP

CORONA, Calif. (AP)—Jimmy Page once painted a dragon, and used it to slay.

The guitar guru was so bursting with creative inspiration 50 years ago that he felt compelled to pick up a brush and use his skills from art school to take poster paints to his favorite instrument, a 1959 Fender Telecaster, and decorate it with a psychedelic beast.

He calls the axe "the Excalibur" that he wielded through the wildly eventful year of 1968, when his old band, the Yardbirds, crashed, and his new band, Led Zeppelin, was born just two months later.

"My whole life is moving so fast at that point," Page, now 74, said as he reflected on Led Zeppelin's 50th anniversary in an interview with The Associated Press at the Fender guitar factory in California. "Absolutely just a roller-coaster ride."

Page said he had Led Zeppelin's sound, and first songs, fully formed in his mind before the Yardbirds were even done.

"I just knew what way to go," Page said. "It was in my instinct."

He found his first ally in singer Robert Plant, whom he invited to his house to thumb through records and talk music.

Page said he used an unlikely bit of folkie inspiration—Joan Baez—to show Plant the sound he wanted, playing her recording of the song "Babe I'm Gonna Leave You" and telling him to emulate the way she sang the top line of the song. Zeppelin would put the tune on its first album.

Half a century on, guitarist Jimmy Page recalls how he put legendary rock outfit Led Zeppelin together. (Oct. 30)

Page still marvels at how fast the whole thing took off after Plant brought on drummer John Bonham and Page pulled in his friend John Paul Jones to play bass.

"The whole journey of Led Zeppelin and the rise of Led Zeppelin, each tour was just extraordinary, and the growth and the respect and love of the band, and the people that were flooding to see us," Page said.

CNN goes after Trump in wake of explosive devices

NEW YORK (AP)—CNN's management has taken an aggressive stance against attacks from President Donald Trump after the network was sent explosive devices from a man who allegedly targeted Trump's perceived enemies.

In a statement, CNN chief executive Jeff Zucker was critical of the White House's "complete lack of understanding about the seriousness" of its attacks against the media, and it was followed up by another statement this week calling on Press Secretary Sarah Sanders to understand that "words matter."

The network has responded to specific provocations in the past. Yet it's still considered unusual for a news organization, as opposed to an individual commentator or columnist, to take on a president. It's the first time Zucker has done so this year.

Two of its former leaders applauded the approach on Tuesday.

"When it happens to you, it's difficult to maintain a veneer of objectivity and restraint," said Jonathan Klein, CNN president from 2004 to 2010. "It wouldn't make sense for them not to respond in this way. The bomber had 'CNN sucks' stickers on his van and it's clear who has been pushing that idea."

Zucker's statement was justifiable, and handling it any other way "would come off as false or a bit odd," he said.

Zucker spoke on the day that Florida resident Cesar Sayoc allegedly sent the first of three devices to CNN offices. Another statement on Monday, issued through the network's public relations Twitter feed, addressed Sanders in saying CNN did not suggest that Trump was responsible for the device sent to its office "by his ardent and emboldened supporter.

"We did say that he, and you, should understand that your words matter," CNN said. "Every single one of them. But so far, you don't seem to get that."

The statement followed an exchange in Monday's White House press briefing between Sanders and CNN's Jim Acosta, who tried to get Sanders to say specifically who the president meant when he made comments about "fake news" and declared the media "the enemy of the people." Sanders had said it was irresponsible of any news organization, like CNN, to blame the president for Sayoc's actions.

"There are a lot of reasons to hold your fire. One of which is you hope people mature," said Rick Kaplan, CNN's president from 1997 to 2000. But at some point when you realize that nothing's going to change, it can make you look wimpy not to respond, he said.

"They've been patient and professional," Kaplan said. "I'm proud of Jeff."

Tiffany Haddish tests her hot streak with 'Nobody's Fool'

NEW YORK (AP)—What's the best thing that's happened to Tiffany Haddish in the past year? Tough question.

She takes a deep breath. "Meeting Oprah, getting a Tesla, hosting the MTV Movie and TV Awards, winning awards, going on trips, staying in different countries, getting an award in Canada. Going to Africa was really super awesome. Getting to meet my aunties and cousins that I hadn't met before. Having the funds to get my mother out of a mental institution—that's freaking amazing—and getting her the best doctors. Being able to afford to take care of my grandmother. That's really better than everything."

She pauses. "I could keep going because it's been a pretty phenomenal year," says Haddish, laughing. But she has one more to add. "Being able to see my ex-boyfriends in passing, them saying 'Hey, I'd like to take you to dinner some time,' and me saying, 'I'm sorry. I'm busy.' That's pretty awesome too."

A year after her breakout role in "Girl's Trip," Haddish is indeed busy. Up next is the Tyler Perry written-and-directed comedy "Nobody's Fool," which pairs her with Tika Sumpter. They play sisters, with Whoopi Goldberg as their mom. Once Haddish's character gets out of jail, they discover that Sumpter's boyfriend is catfishing her. "

Nobody's Fool," out Friday, will test just how much Haddish audiences want. It's her third film in theaters in just the last month, following "Night School" (which paired her with her longtime mentor, Kevin Hart) and Ike Barinholtz's dark indie comedy "The Oath." Plus, last month, she was a standout at the Emmys, where she won for hosting "Saturday Night Live." (She was the first black female comic to host.)

With blistering speed, Haddish has become one of Hollywood's most in-demand talents. Everyone from Paul Thomas Anderson to Judd Apatow (who's interested in adapting Haddish's memoir, "The Last Black Unicorn") wants to work with her. She's also prepping a Netflix stand-up special, developing a sitcom with Danielle Sanchez-Witzel ("The Carmichael Show") and readying season two of "The Last O.G.," with Tracy Morgan. And that's to say nothing of her litany of projects due next year.

Haddish's ubiquity this falls has been the culmination of her inspiring rise from a difficult upbringing to the highest reaches of show business. The 38-year-old comedian has said she was abused a child before entering foster care, and later was briefly homeless while trying to make it as a stand-up in Los Angeles. But her confidence in her future never wavered; Haddish's production company is named after her personal slogan: She Ready.

Winfrey, Witherspoon among guests on Michelle Obama tour

NEW YORK (AP)—Oprah Winfrey and Reese Witherspoon will be among the special guests when Michelle Obama goes on tour for her memoir "Becoming."

Others appearing with the former first lady will include Sarah Jessica Parker, Michele Norris and former White House aide Valerie Jarrett. The announcement was made by Live Nation and Crown Publishing on Tuesday.

Obama's book comes out Nov. 13 and her tour begins that night at Chicago's United Center, with Winfrey serving as moderator. Witherspoon will join Obama in Denver and Jarrett in Washington, D.C. Obama will make 12 stops in all, ending in New York City's Barclay Center on Dec. 19, with Parker as moderator.

Beatles release new video for 'Glass Onion' on Apple Music

NEW YORK (AP)—The Beatles have released a new music video on Apple Music for their 1968 song, "Glass Onion."

The video was released Tuesday and features rare photos and performance footage. The song appeared on their self-titled ninth album, often referred to as the "White Album," which celebrates its 50th anniversary this year.

The Beatles will re-release the "White Album" on Nov. 9, featuring 30 tracks newly mixed by Giles Martin, the son of longtime Beatles producer George Martin.

The repackaging also includes 27 acoustic demos of material the Beatles made at George Harrison's house before recording sessions began, as well as 50 studio outtakes.

Ava DuVernay to make Prince documentary for Netflix

NEW YORK (AP)—Ava DuVernay is making a multipart documentary on Prince for Netflix with the support of the late musician's estate.

The director on Tuesday confirmed Twitter reports late Monday that she's working on the film. The documentary will be made with extensive use of Prince's archives and will span the artist's entire life.

It will be the "Selma" filmmaker's second documentary for Netflix. Her 2016 film, "The 13th," explored mass incarceration as a form of continued slavery for African-Americans. It was nominated for best documentary by the Academy Awards and won an Emmy Award for outstanding documentary.

DuVernay, who earlier this year directed Disney's "A Wrinkle in Time," is currently filming the Netflix miniseries "Central Park Five."

Royals Harry and Meghan name kiwi birds 'gift' and 'sneeze'

ROTORUA, New Zealand (AP)—Prince Harry and wife Meghan have examined the navel, nostrils and whiskers on New Zealand's flightless kiwi bird and got to name two tiny chicks on the final day of their 16-day tour of the South Pacific.

The Duke and Duchess of Sussex visited a kiwi hatchery in the town of Rotorua on Wednesday and learned about the breeding program for the threatened birds, which are considered national icons.

They gave the 3-day-old kiwi chicks indigenous Maori names: "Koha" meaning "gift" and "Tihei" meaning "sneeze," from the Maori saying "tihei mauri ora" meaning "the sneeze of life" or the right to speak. The names were gender neutral because their sexes haven't yet been identified.

The couple also visited a Maori meeting grounds or "marae" and went for a public walkabout.

AP

Britain's Prince Harry and Meghan, the Duchess of Sussex talk to staff as they look at kiwi chicks during a visit to the National Kiwi Hatchery at Rainbow Springs in Rotorua, New Zealand, Wednesday, Oct. 31, 2018.

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

World Series 4th-least-watched, averaging 14.1M viewers

NEW YORK (AP)—Boston's five-game World Series victory over the Los Angeles Dodgers averaged 14,125,000 viewers on Fox, down 25 percent from last year and the fourth-lowest ever. The Series featuring a pair of large-market teams averaged an 8.3 rating and 17 share, Nielsen said Tuesday. That was down from a 10.7 rating, 20 share and 18,926,000 average viewers for the Houston Astros' seven-game win over the Dodgers last year and 40 percent from 23,386,000 average viewers for the Cubs' seven-game win over Cleveland two years ago—Chicago's first title since 1908. The only Series with fewer average viewers were Philadelphia's five-game win over Tampa Bay in 2008 (13,062,000), San Francisco's four-game sweep of Detroit in 2012 (12.7 million) and the Giants' seven-game win over Kansas City in 2014 (13,825,000). The rating was the third-lowest, ahead of only a 7.6 in 2012 and an 8.2 in 2014. Boston's 5-1 win in Game 5 on Sunday was the most-watched of the Series, averaging 17,634,000 viewers. The opener averaged 18,314,000, followed by 13,507,000 in Game 2, 13,250,000 in Game 3 and 13,563,000 in Game 4. Ratings represent the percentage of U.S. television households tuned into a program and shares represent the percentage watching a broadcast among homes with TVs in use at the time.

Hong Kong journalist, martial arts novelist Louis Cha dies

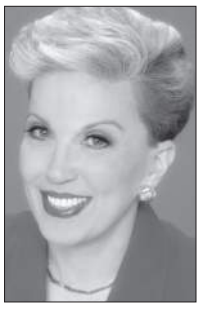
HONG KONG (AP)—Louis Cha, a Hong Kong journalist and best-selling Chinese martial arts novelist, has died at age 94 after a long illness. The Hong Kong newspaper founded by Cha, Ming Pao Daily News, said he passed away Tuesday at a Hong Kong hospital. Cha's novels about ancient Chinese swordsmen have sold millions and are among the most widely read in the Chinese-speaking world. They inspired film adaptations, TV and radio dramas, comic books and videogames, and greatly influenced Hong Kong popular culture. They include "The Heaven Sword and the Dragon Saber," about a kindhearted hero who is indecisive but uses his kung fu skills to unify a divided gang and is elected its leader, and "The Eagle-Shooting Heroes," about a tragic hero who sacrifices his life in guarding the country against invading Mongolians. Cha was born in 1924 in Hangzhou in mainland China and graduated from the Law School of Suzhou in 1948, the South China Morning Post said. He had planned to become a diplomat, but began work as a journalist in 1947 to support his studies. The communist revolution in 1949 closed off his opportunities to enter diplomacy. Cha's first novel, "The Book and the Sword," was published in 1955 and became an instant hit. He went on to write 14 martial arts novels, often under the pen name Jin Yong.

Demolition begins of Kansas waterslide on which boy died

KANSAS CITY, Kan. (AP)—Crews are tearing down a giant waterslide that a 10-year-old Kansas boy was riding when he was decapitated two years ago. KMBC-TV reports that deconstruction of the 17-story Verruckt, which was billed as the world's tallest waterslide, began Tuesday. Caleb Schwab, the son of a Kansas legislator, was riding the slide at the Schlitterbahn water park in Kansas City, Kansas, in August 2016 when the raft he was in went airborne. Caleb was killed when he struck a metal rod that held a safety net in place. The demolition was delayed because of disagreements over which parts of the slide should be preserved for evidence in criminal cases. Two maintenance workers have been acquitted of impeding the investigation. Charges are pending against the park's co-owner and the ride's designer.

Concern over woman's health grows to the point of action

DEAR ABBY
By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

DEAR ABBY: I have a co-worker I work closely with. Almost every day I hear her throwing up in the bathroom. It happens like clockwork. It's gotten to the point where I'm extremely concerned. Although it has been going on for years, it seems to have gotten worse.

I don't feel comfortable enough to bring this up to her, but something has to happen. I'm afraid I'll embarrass her, make her quit, etc., but her life is more important than that. We are both in management positions, but I am not her superior (in case that changes your advice about what to do or who to tell). Do I mention this to HR? Our boss runs his mouth a lot, and I don't know if I can say anything without it getting around.

WORRIED FOR HER

DEAR WORRIED: I wonder if anyone else you work with has noticed what you have. Talk to someone in HR and explain that you're concerned that a fellow employee (unnamed) may suffer from a life-threatening illness and need help. Point out the time the person goes into the bathroom "like clockwork," and let HR try to get her the medical intervention she so desperately appears to need. Throwing up repeatedly can result in damage to the digestive tract.

DEAR ABBY: I am a young teenage dancer. My friends in dance class are wonderful except for one thing. Four of them hide in our dressing rooms, bathroom and anywhere else they won't be seen to smoke e-cigarettes.

My one close friend asked me once if I wanted to try it. When I said no, she knew better than to press further. Other friends keep telling me it's fun. I know if I did it and my parents found out, they would kill me. Plus, I don't want to get caught up in that deadly cycle.

What should I do? Tell my teacher and risk losing friends or leave it alone? After all, it's only hurting them, right?

BAFFLED AT BALLET

DEAR BAFFLED: You are an intelligent young lady to recognize that "sampling" tobacco products can lead to addiction. Good for you!

When the government, in its wisdom, finally clamped down on the tobacco companies in an attempt to prevent yet another generation from becoming addicted, I thought that would be the end of it. Imagine my consternation when they came out with flavored vaping fluids to seduce more young people. It's shameless!

Rather than tell the teacher, talk to your parents about what's going on so they can quietly mention it to the parents of the other girls.

DEAR ABBY: Why has the word "veggies" replaced "vegetables"? When people say "veggies," to me it sounds like they are talking to a child.

GROWNUP EATER IN GEORGIA

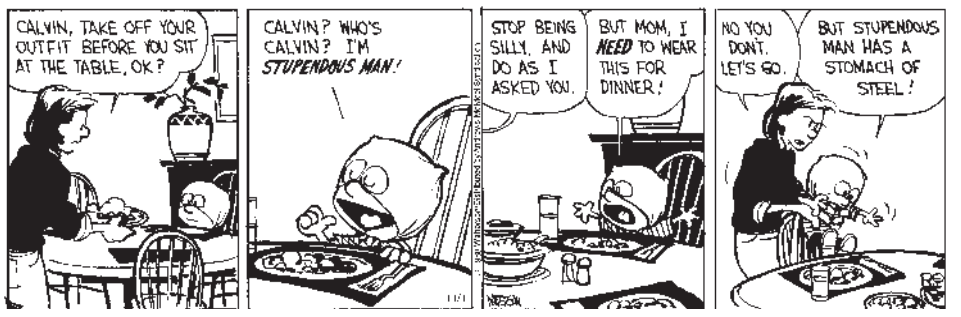
DEAR EATER: It's probably because "vegetables" has at least three syllables and people have a tendency to shorten words that have more than one syllable. It may also be because parents think it's a way of making them appear more palatable to small children.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding. Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

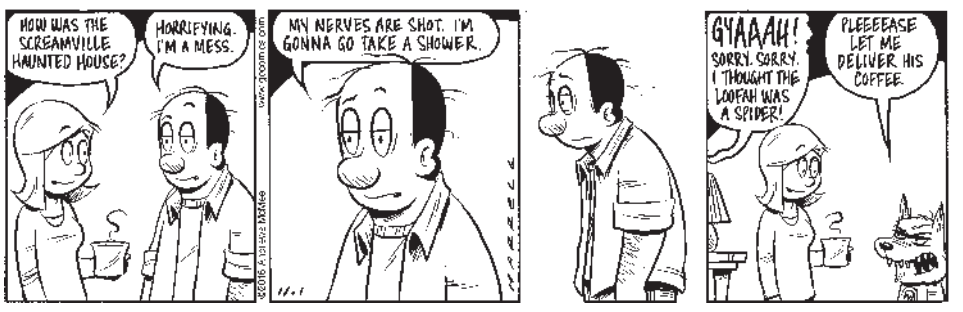

CALVIN, TAKE OFF YOUR OUTFIT BEFORE YOU SIT AT THE TABLE, OK?
CALVIN? WHO'S CALVIN? I'M STUPENDOUS MAN!
STOP BEING SILLY, AND DO AS I ASKED YOU.
BUT MOM, I NEED TO WEAR THIS FOR DINNER!
NO YOU DON'T. LET'S GO.
BUT STUPENDOUS MAN HAS A STOMACH OF STEEL!

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

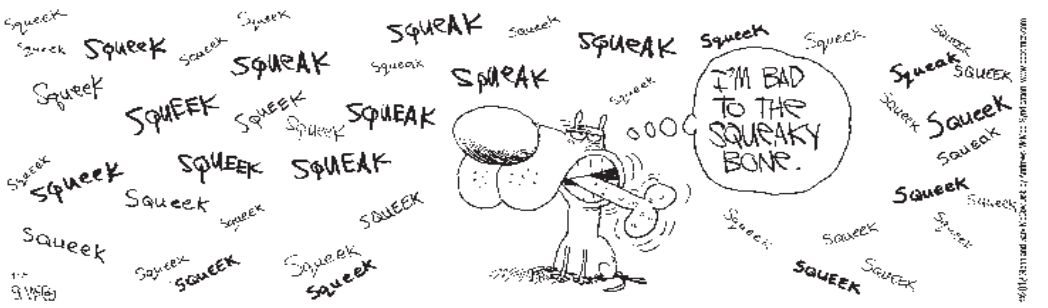
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


HOW WAS THE SCREAMVILLE HAUNTED HOUSE?
HORRIFYING. I'M A MESS.
MY NERVES ARE SHOT. I'M GONNA GO TAKE A SHOWER.
GYAAAH! SORRY. SORRY. I THOUGHT THE LOOFAH WAS A SPIDER!
PLEEEEASE LET ME DELIVER HIS COFFEE.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Faxed
5 Ado
9 Squid squirt
12 Designer Rabanne
13 Part of Q.E.D.
14 Junior
15 With no instrumental accompaniment
17 Past
18 Molds
19 Bigwig
21 UFO pilot
22 Arbiter
24 Fuzzy image
27 Clear the deck?
28 Stately trees
31 Goal
32 Bankbook abbr.
33 Zodiac feline
34 Owed amount
36 Ultra-modernist
37 Six-pack units
38 Flat floaters
40 Opposite of nyet
41 Amazon's virtual assistant
43 Tea type
47 Crony
48 Brain parts
51 Tin Man's need
52 Austen novel
53 Body pics
54 School support org.
55 Word of warning
56 Attempt

DOWN

1 Hot tubs
2 Apiece
3 March Madness gp.
4 Hat
5 Bank charges
6 Web address
7 Pitcher Maglie
8 Rise
9 Actress Rossellini
10 Scrapped mission
11 Handle
16 Favorite
20 Bio stat
22 Singer Norah
23 Plotting
24 Abysmal
25 Fib
26 Parasol
27 Gum flavor
29 Gents
30 "Mayday!"
35 Levy
37 Insertion symbols
39 Confronted
40 Society newcomer
41 Per person
42 Cannes milk
43 Warmth
44 Humdrum
45 Saxophone range
46 Endure
49 Punk rock offshoot
50 LBJ's successor

Solution time: 24 mins.

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C		T	O			R	A	N		S	O	S O
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B	O	B		T	N	T		C	C	L	A	T
I	H	O	P		C	S	C		H	O	M	C
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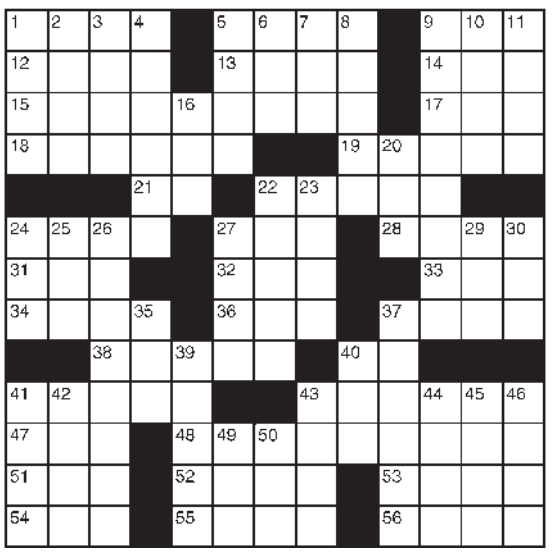
		M	O	N	K			T	A			
B	A	T	T	L	E		C	A	R	T	E	L
A	L	O	E		B	O	O	B	T	L	B	E
S	A	W	S		A	I	R		I	P	A	N
H		N	T		B	L	Y		E	N	Y	A

Yesterday's answer 11-1



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Toni Collette, 46; Jenny McCarthy, 46; Anthony Kiedis, 56; Lyle Lovett, 61.

Happy Birthday: Stay centered. A steady pace and a nonchalant attitude will help you channel your energy in a constructive manner that will help you build an environment that suits you. Let go of the past, and don't labor over what others do. The ability to walk away from controversy will be what leads to your success and happiness. Choose wisely and win. Your numbers are 8, 19, 24, 26, 34, 37, 44.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* Don't look for trouble. Spend time getting things done, not complaining about what others are doing. A passionate approach to whoever you help or whatever you pursue will be what impresses others the most. Address your feelings before you make a personal change. ✪✪✪✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* Instead of making a fuss, make a change. If you don't like something, it's up to you to act. Anger solves little, but making a decision and putting an end to what isn't working will make a difference. ✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* Make some adjustments at home that will add to your convenience. Do something that will change the way others view you. Update your qualifications, image or attitude to reflect greater professionalism as well as compassion and cooperation. ✪✪✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* Stick close to home, and don't take a risk that could lead to the loss of a friend, money or a deal that could leave you in jeopardy. Playing it safe will ease stress and ensure better days ahead. ✪✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* An emotional incident will bring about change. Try not to overreact or you may not be thrilled with the outcome. Look for a better way to solve an issue that is likely to pass as tempers wane. Choose peace and love. ✪✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* Look at all the aspects of a situation before you react. The changes you make should be thought out and executed with precision and detail. Acting in haste or due to emotional duress will lead to a bigger problem. ✪✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* How you help others will make a difference. If you let someone bully you into doing something, it won't turn out well. However, if you offer what you know you can accomplish without jeopardizing your name or position, you'll succeed. ✪✪✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* Take pride in what you do, or someone will point out your shortfall. A little extra attention to detail will spark a creative idea that will give you a competitive edge. A personal change will have a lasting impression. ✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* Live within your means. Keep your personal matters to yourself, and don't brag about what you have. If you are too friendly or open, someone will take advantage of you. For the best results, save aggressively and live modestly. ✪✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* Offering a donation in order to impress someone will be costly. Only give what you can to organizations you care about. Don't let what others think rule your life. Be who you are, not who someone else wants you to be. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Treat relationships with care. Don't expect too much or give too much. Strive for equality and understanding first and see what happens. Use your intelligence and you'll come up with innovative ways to move forward personally and professionally. ✪✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* Put in the time and reap the rewards. Don't wait for someone else to surpass you. Trust and believe in what you can do, and you will achieve what you set out to do. Think big but live within your means. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are aggressive, outgoing and innovative. You are enthusiastic and playful.

To submit astrological questions to the "Dear Eugenia" column, visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

4	6				7			
5				8	7		3	
			1					2
		4		7			2	
	8						5	
	9			6		1		
2					3			
	3		9	5				4
		8					1	7

Difficulty Level ★★★ 11/01

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's Answer

4	6	5	1	3	7	2	9	8
3	2	8	5	6	9	1	7	4
1	9	7	2	4	8	3	6	5
9	4	1	3	5	2	7	8	6
5	8	2	7	1	6	4	3	9
6	7	3	8	9	4	5	1	2
7	5	6	9	2	3	8	4	1
8	1	9	4	7	5	6	2	3
2	3	4	6	8	1	9	5	7

Difficulty Level ★★★

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

DOLLHOUSES Solution: 9 letters

E	C	L	A	T	E	M	C	H	I	M	N	E	Y	N
U	R	O	I	U	A	H	C	I	T	S	I	T	R	A
Q	A	U	L	G	I	B	F	A	M	I	L	Y	B	I
I	F	G	T	L	H	S	L	L	O	D	A	A	R	L
T	T	S	D	A	E	T	S	E	L	L	S	Q	O	S
N	R	R	O	D	I	C	S	K	P	E	U	F	R	T
A	E	I	O	O	T	N	T	S	O	M	L	O	R	E
N	A	A	R	O	E	W	I	N	D	O	W	O	I	P
P	L	T	Y	W	H	D	C	M	W	H	B	R	M	E
L	I	S	M	O	O	R	R	E	M	R	I	A	H	C
A	S	D	N	C	B	A	R	O	I	M	L	F	S	A
N	T	S	L	A	B	S	T	C	O	L	R	O	S	R
T	I	O	D	I	Y	S	K	T	A	L	I	S	A	P
S	C	A	L	E	U	S	E	Z	I	S	F	N	R	E
K	S	E	D	C	B	B	Y	A	L	C	E	Y	G	T

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Antique, Artistic, Attic, Base, Beds, Book, Bricks, Build, Carpet, Case, Ceiling, Chair, Children, Chimney, Clay, Clock, Collect, Craft, Custom, Desk, Display, Dolls, Door, Family, Floor, Flowers, Glue, Grass, Hobby, Home, Lamp, Lights, Metal, Miniature, Mirror, Nails, Pets, Plants, Realistic, Roof, Rooms, Scale, Sell, Size, Sofa, Stairs, Table, Toys, Window, Wood

Yesterday's Answer: Games

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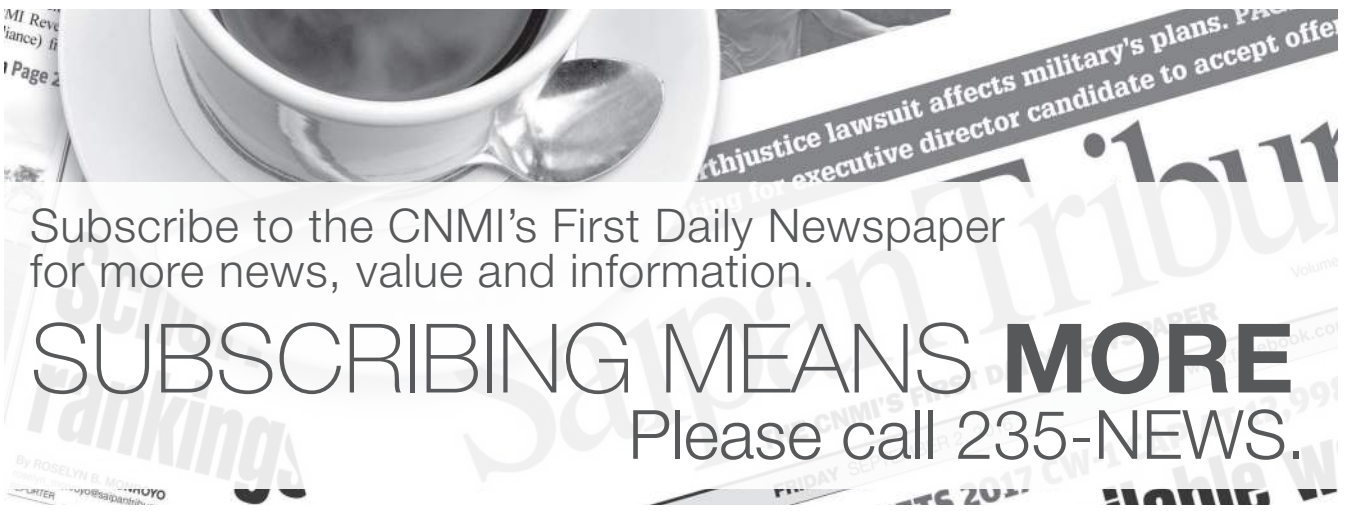

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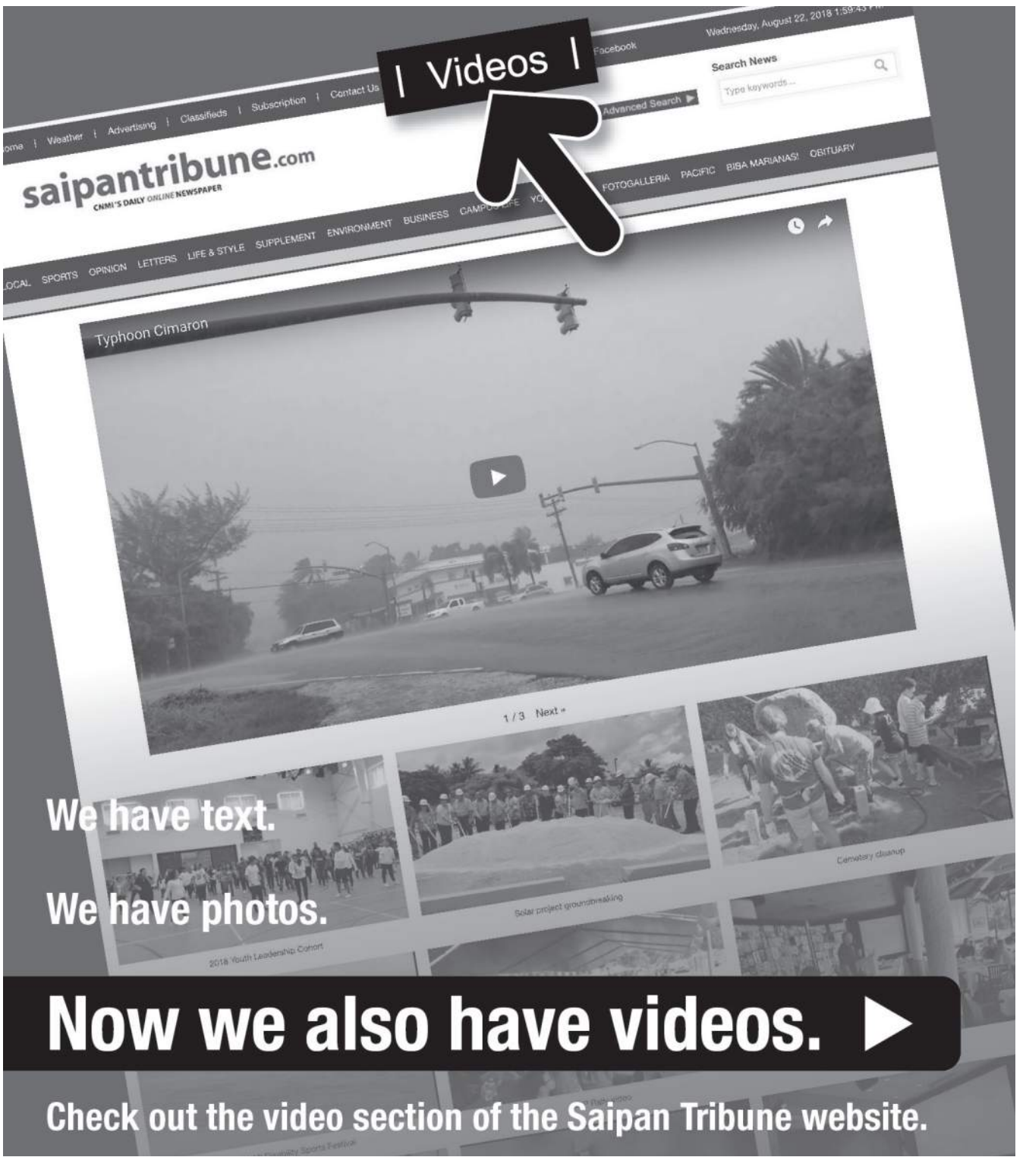

WHATZIT Solution: Run out of luck

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Red Sox exercise $15M 2019 option on Sale

BOSTON (AP)—The Red Sox have exercised their $15 million option for next season on ace left-hander Chris Sale.

Sale will earn $15 million in the final season of a five-year contract he signed with the Chicago White Sox before the 2013 season that guaranteed $32.5 million, including a 2017 option buyout. He had a $12.5 million salary this season in the first of two option years and will wind up earning $59 million over seven seasons plus award bonuses.

Sale can become a free agent after the 2019 World Series.

In addition, infielder Eduardo Nunez exercised his $5 million player option rather than become a free agent.

The 2017 AL Cy Young Award runner-up and a seven-time All-Star, Sale struck out the side in the ninth inning of World Series Game 5 against the Los Angeles Dodgers to close out Boston's fourth championship in 15 seasons. Boston announced its decision Tuesday, two days after the finale.

The 29-year-old earned his first playoff victory in Game 1 of the AL Division Series against the New York Yankees. Sale went 12-4 with a 2.11 ERA and 237 strikeouts in 27 regular-season starts in his second season in Boston.

He was among the favorites to win the Cy Young this season before shoulder issues during the season's second half.

Nunez hit .265 with 10 homers and 44 RBIs in 502 plate appearances, playing second base and third.

AP

Boston Red Sox pitcher Chris Sale delivers against the New York Yankees during the eighth inning of Game 4 of baseball's American League Division Series, Tuesday, Oct. 9, 2018, in New York.

Moustakas, Soria elect free agency

In Milwaukee, the Brewers third baseman Mike Moustakas is becoming a free agent again, and so is reliever Joakim Soria.

In addition, the Brewers exercised a $3,175,000 option on All-Star right-hander Jeremy Jeffress, who would have been eligible for salary arbitration if it had been declined.

Moustakas declined a $15 million mutual option Tuesday.

He rejected a $17.4 million qualifying offer and left Kansas City after the 2017 season but was unable to find a long-term deal he liked. He returned to the Royals in mid-March for a one-year contract that included a guaranteed $6.5 million: a $5.5 million salary and $1 million option buyout. Moustakas earned an additional $2.2 million in performance bonuses based on plate appearances, raising his total earnings for 2018 to $8.7 million.

A 30-year-old left-handed hitter, Moustakas had a .251 average with 28 homers and 95 RBIs. He hit .256 with eight homers and 33 RBIs in 54 games for Milwaukee, which acquired him from the last-place Royals on July 27.

Mariners decline $12M option on Span

In Seattle, the Mariners have declined their part of outfielder Denard Span's $12 million mutual option for next year in favor of a $4 million buyout, making the 34-year-old a free agent.

Span, who exercised his part of the option, was acquired by Seattle last May in a trade with Tampa Bay and became one of the Mariners most consistent hitters. Span hit .272 with 15 doubles, seven home runs and 30 RBIs in 94 games with the Mariners, often batting in the middle of Seattle's order. He played 87 of those games in the outfield, almost all in left field.

Span agreed to a $31 million, three-year contract with San Francisco before the 2016 season and earned an additional $4.75 million in performance bonuses and escalators that raised his earnings under the deal to $35.75 million.

He was traded to Tampa Bay from San Francisco last offseason and relished the chance to play where he grew up. But with Seattle needing a left-handed bat after the suspension of Robinson Cano as it tried to contend for a playoff spot, he was traded to the Mariners along with reliever Alex Colome for a pair of minor leaguers.

Rockies decline $12.5M option on Parra

In Denver, the Colorado Rockies have declined their $12.5 million option on outfielder Gerardo Parra and will pay a $1.5 million buyout.

The 31-year-old, who became a free agent, hit .284 with six homers and 53 RBIs in his third season with the Rockies. He started 90 games in left field in 2018 and seven in right.

Parra saw action in three games during the Rockies' postseason run, including a start in Game 2 of the NL Division Series. He was 4 for 8 with a run scored.

Parra made his major league debut in 2009 with Arizona and also has played for Milwaukee and Baltimore.

TERMINATOR

From Page 24

other competing teams.

Nice Try missed the Top 3 finished in the final rankings, but ruled the high scratch and high handicap game categories for recording 918 and 1,127 pins, respectively. No Pressure was second in both categories with its 909 and 1,096. Nice Try also had the best scores in the high handicap series with 3,101, beating Anchor (3,060) anew. Anchor then foiled No Pressure's bid for a sweep in the high score awards after registering 2,529 in the scratch series against the 2,517 of Natibu.

In the individual awards, No Pressure's Georgia Satoshi won three—the high scratch game (263), handicap (308), and handicap series (703). Janice Camacho topped the high scratch series with her 580 pins and was second in the scratch game (222). Gloria Omechalang placed runner-up both in the scratch series (572) and handicap series (701).

In the men's division, No Pressure's Zack Cruz and Alley Gators' Roger De Guzman split the four individual awards. Cruz won in the high scratch series (620) and handicap series (689), while De Guzman prevailed in the high scratch game (259) and handicap game (282).

In the high average category, Talavera took the top honors in the men's after averaging 177.13, while Janice Camacho got the same award in the women's division with her 161.15.

With her three individual awards, Satoshi was named most improved player in the women's division, while Anchor's Donado Basid got similar recognition in the men's.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Natibu members pose for a group photo during the awards ceremony for the Tuesday Night Bowling League last week at the Saipan Bowling Center.

Mickelson happy to play the underdog in match vs Woods

LAS VEGAS (AP)—Phil Mickelson sees a silver, if not a golden, lining in the role as heavy underdog in his upcoming pay-per-view match against Tiger Woods.

Las Vegas oddsmakers have installed Mickelson at +180 against Woods in their $9 million match set for Nov. 23. A $100 bet on Mickelson would net $180 if he wins.

Mickelson is optimistic about a potential windfall with those numbers.

"I like it, the payoff on my side is very good, I like it," Mickelson told NBC San Diego Monday.

Woods, 42, is the favorite at -220. One would have to wager $220 to net $100 on a Woods' victory.

The 48-year-old Mickelson said he continues to prepare for the match. He last played at the Safeway Open and finished T17.

"We've got three weeks, I'm working in the gym right now, then in about four days I'll get back on the golf course," Mickelson said. "I'm excited to get back on the course at Shadow Creek and play Tiger, it's a fun event. It's been great for me this off season, because it's kept me working on my game even though I'm not playing in tournaments, I've had to get my club speed up and just work on the right things, hopefully this will help not only in the match, but for a great 2019 season."

Mickelson spoke in conjunction with his participation in the Freedom to Live charity golf tournament in San Diego. He also offered a clinic to attendees.

Meanwhile, the PGA Championship moving to May might have provided a strong finishing kick to the European Tour season.

The European Tour released a schedule for next year that still involves 31 countries on five continents with 48 tournaments, even if they are a little out of order. The biggest change was moving its flagship event, the BMW PGA Championship at Wentworth, from May to September.

Wentworth would have been one week after the PGA Championship. Now it is Sept. 19-22 and kicks off a stretch that includes the popular Dunhill Links Championship a week later, a Rolex Series event at the Italian Open, the French Open at Le Golf National, a World Golf Championships event in Shanghai and the final three Rolex Series events (Turkey, South Africa, Dubai) that conclude the Race to Dubai.

Westbrook scores 32, tussles with Beverley as Thunder roll

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP)—Russell Westbrook and Patrick Beverley aren't done yet with their long-running feud.

Westbrook scored 32 points and had another run-in with Beverley during the Oklahoma City Thunder's 128-110 victory over the Los Angeles Clippers on Tuesday night.

The Thunder outscored the Clippers 39-10 in the third quarter, and Westbrook and Beverley provided the only drama in the fourth. Beverley dove at a dribbling Westbrook and made contact just above Westbrook's left knee, and both were issued technicals after jawing in front of the benches. Police officers stepped onto the court to help keep the teams separated. Upon review, Beverley's foul was ruled a flagrant 1.

There's plenty of history between the two. Westbrook tore the lateral meniscus in his right knee during the playoffs in 2013 when Beverley, then playing for the Houston Rockets, lunged for the ball as Westbrook prepared to call timeout. Westbrook missed the rest of the playoffs and part of the next season. In March 2014, the first time the two played again, Beverley swiped the ball away from Westbrook after a timeout and drew a technical, and Beverley and Westbrook had to be separated.

Westbrook has had a history of knee problems. He had a procedure on his right knee that cost him the preseason and the first two games of the regular season.

He didn't directly address Beverley's action on Tuesday.

AP

Oklahoma City Thunder guard Russell Westbrook, center, dives for a ball between Los Angeles Clippers guard Shai Gilgeous-Alexander, left, and center Steven Adams in the second half of an NBA basketball game in Oklahoma City, Tuesday, Oct. 30, 2018.

Cavaliers 136, Hawks 114

In Cleveland, Rodney Hood scored a season-high 26 points, Cedi Osman added 20 and Cleveland ended its six-game losing streak to start the season, beating the Atlanta Hawks in the Cavaliers' first game since coach Tyronn Lue was fired.

The Cavs came in as the NBA's only winless team, and Lue paid the price for club's slow start.

But with Larry Drew serving as Cleveland's "acting" coach while he tries to get the team to restructure his contract, the Cavs played a complete game—had seven players in double figures—and avoided their first 0-7 start since 1995-96.

Raptors 129, 76ers 112

In Toronto, Kawhi Leonard scored 31 points, Pascal Siakam had 15 points and a career-high 15 rebounds, and Toronto bounced back from its first loss of the season by routing Philadelphia, handing the 76ers their 12th consecutive defeat north of the border.

Kyle Lowry had 20 points and 13 assists, extending his streak of double-digit assist games to a career-best six. Jonas Valanciunas scored a season-high 23 points and Serge Ibaka had 16 as the Raptors improved to 6-0 at home.

Trail Blazers 104, Rockets 85

In Houston Damian Lillard and Jusuf Nurkic scored 22 points each, and Portland never trailed in a trouncing of struggling Houston.

The Rockets dropped their fourth straight in their second game without James Harden, who is out with a hamstring injury, to fall to 1-5. After entering the season with eyes on a championship, the Rockets have rarely even been competitive, dropping their four home games by an average of more than 17 points.

Celtics 108, Pistons 105

In Boston, Kyrie Irving scored a season-high 31 points, Marcus Morris had 15 points and nine rebounds and Boston beat Detroit, handing the Pistons back-to-back losses after a 4-0 start.

Jayson Tatum scored 16, Jaylen Brown had 14 points and Al Horford scored 11 for Boston.

Blake Griffin had 24 points and 15 rebounds for Detroit, which couldn't recover after scoring just 13 points in the third quarter. The Pistons chopped Boston's 14-point lead down to a point with 4:21 left to play, and then again with 12 seconds remaining, but couldn't quite complete the comeback.

Hornets 125, Heat 113

In Charlotte, Tony Parker had 24 points and 11 assists to lead a big night from Charlotte's bench, and the Hornets beat Miami.

Behind Parker, who provided a spark all game long with his scoring, passing and decision-making, Charlotte's reserves outscored Miami's 66-46. Malik Monk had 20 points on 7-of-10 shooting, including four 3-pointers, and Michael Kidd-Gilchrist contributed 14 points and eight rebounds for the second unit.

Kings 107, Magic 99

In Orlando, Buddy Hield finished with 25 points and 11 rebounds, and Sacramento beat Orlando and extended its winning streak to four games.

Hield scored six points in a 13-2 run to close out the third quarter and the Kings held on for the victory and matched their longest winning streak since February 2017.

Grizzlies 107, Wizards 95

In Memphis, Garrett Temple scored 20 points, Marc Gasol and Mike Conley added 19 apiece and Memphis sent Washington to its fourth straight loss.

Shelvin Mack added 14 for Memphis, which won its second straight and opened the season 3-0 at home. Conley added seven assists, while Temple had seven rebounds.

John Wall led Washington with 22 points, while backcourt mate Bradley Beal scored 17 points.

LeBron: Don't test my patience

LOS ANGELES—It took two weeks and five defeats and 852 points conceded, but LeBron James is starting to get mad and he's not going to bite his tongue any longer.

After preaching patience ever since his arrival in Los Angeles, that virtue has finally worn thin for James following a 124-120 defeat at Minnesota on Monday night that dropped the team to 2-5.

"We talk about patience but you can't have reoccurrence of the same thing," James told reporters. "If you are doing the same things over and over and over and expecting the same result then that's insanity.

"So we have to get better. We can't keep having the same mistakes over and over."

Defensively, the Lakers have been unable to get critical stops when needed in virtually all of this season's defeats. Preventing the opposition from going on scoring runs has been an issue, as has holding onto late leads. The Timberwolves were allowed 20 offensive rebounds on Monday and got to the free-throw line twice as often (30 to 15) as the Lakers.

James knew he would be spearheading a building project with an eye firmly on the future when he switched Cleveland for California, but he's sick of losing with such frequency and has no interest in seeing the early-season trend continue.

"You probably don't want to be around when my patience runs out," James added. "I'm serious."

Many of the mistakes have been a result of the inexperience in the squad, but the Lakers' youngest members have also shown serious potential and can be expected to improve over the course of the campaign. For James, that progress can't happen quickly enough.

Eagles land Golden Tate in trade with Lions

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—Golden Tate is bringing his show to Philadelphia.

The Eagles acquired the 30-year-old wide receiver nicknamed "Showtime" from the Detroit Lions for a 2019 third-round draft pick on Tuesday. Tate has 44 catches for 517 yards and three touchdowns this season.

He joins Alshon Jeffery, Nelson Agholor and Jordan Matthews, giving Carson Wentz another target to go along with tight ends Zach Ertz and Dallas Goedert.

"This is a guy we've had so much respect for," Eagles personnel boss Howie Roseman said. "I think our fans, our team, just getting him here, seeing what he brings on the field, off the field, to the practice field, the competitiveness, that's what we're looking for. It's just going to raise the level of everyone."

Tate wrote on Twitter: "It's been real DETROIT! I'll love ya forever. Philly Philly let's get it!!" He then posted a GIF of fictional Philly icon Rocky Balboa jumping up and down on the steps of the Art Museum with the caption: "Mood."

"For more than four years, Golden displayed an unwavering commitment to not only his coaches and teammates, but also the city of Detroit," Lions executive vice president Bob Quinn said in a statement.

"The impact he made on and off the field set an example for our team and serves as a testament to his character."

Tate averaged 93 catches, 1,056 yards receiving and five TDs the past four seasons in Detroit. He went to the Pro Bowl after the 2014 season. Tate spent his first four seasons with Seattle, helping the Seahawks win the Super Bowl his last season.

Tate played primarily in the slot for the Lions. Agholor thrived in that spot last season, but has been used outside this season.

"You're not just having one guy lined up in one particular (spot) and defenses know where he's going to line up," Roseman said.

Tate is in the final season of a five-year, $31 million contract. The Eagles would likely receive a compensation pick after the third or fourth round if he leaves in free agency.

Rams get former first-round pass rusher

In Los Angeles, the rich are getting richer.

The Rams, the NFL's lone undefeated team at 8-0, are bolstering their pass rush to trade for defensive end Dante Fowler, a 2015 first-round pick with the Jacksonville Jaguars.

The Rams are giving Jacksonville back a 2019 third-round pick and a 2020 fifth-round selection.

Fowler came into the league with plenty of promise, but never lived up to his potential in Jacksonville. In two and a half seasons, he has become a situational pass rusher and only started one of his 39 games with the team. Still, he has totaled 48 tackles and 14 sacks.

Jacksonville declined to pick up Fowler's fifth-year option.

Red Sox exercise $15M 2019 option on Sale

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Saipan Tribune
Sports

Westbrook scores 32, tussles with Beverley as Thunder roll

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Carol still in contention

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REPORTER

The CNMI's Carol Lee won her opening match in the doubles event of the 2018 Lee Duk Hee Cup Chuncheon International Junior Tennis Championships to make it to the quarterfinals of the tournament being held in South Korea.

Lee was paired with Thailand's Lunda Kumhom and they needed only two sets to beat wild card entries Eunchae Kim and Ha Yeong Ryu of South Korea, 6-3, 6-4, yesterday at the Chuncheon Songam Sports Town Tennis Courts in Chuncheon. The No. 2 seed duo is still waiting for its quarterfinals foes, who are scheduled to play their first game today. Lee and Kumhom's opponents will be the winner between the tandem of South Korea's Yeon Woo Ku and Chinese-Taipei's Chao-Yi Wang or Japan's Kyoka Kubo and Makoto Ohara.

Joining the CNMI player and her Thai partner in the quarterfinals are South Korea's Sihyeong Cho and Yugyeong Oh and Eunji Lee and Hwui Won Wi, and the duo of Japanese Kokomi Koyama and Dutch Lian Tran. Cho and Won advanced to the Round of 8 after sweeping Australia's Anastasica Berezov and Russia's Maria Bondarenko, 6-3, 6-3, while Lee and Wi eked out a 3-6, 6-1 (10-5) triumph over Japan's Kirara Morioka and New Zealand's Elys Saguil-Ventura. Koyama and Tran also took two sets to move into the quarterfinals, as they eliminated South Korea's Dayeon Back and Thailand's Punnin Kovapitukted, 6-3, 7-6 (5).

Meanwhile, Lee is out of contention in the singles event of the Lee Duk Hee Cup.

The No. 7 was stunned by the unranked Dayeon Back of South Korea, 6-1, 6-2, during their first round match last Tuesday. After downing Lee, Back will duel compatriot Eunji Lee in the second round. Euji eliminated Chinese-Taipei's Chao-Yi Wang, 6-2, 6-0, to join 11 other players in the battle for quarterfinal berths in the 32-player field.

Otherds who qualified to the second round were No. 1 Sohyun Park, Hwui Won Wi, and Yeon Woo Ku of South Korea, Megan Smith, Amber Marshall, Olivia Gadecki, and Annerly Poulos of Australia, Japan's Saki Imamura and Ohara, and Bondarenko.

The Lee Duk Hee Cup is a Grade 2 tournament under the Juniors ITF Circuit. It awards 160 ranking points to the singles champion and 120 in doubles. Lee is already guaranteed to gain 25 ranking points from the competition after marching into the quarterfinal round of the doubles event.

The Lee Duk Hee Cup is one of the series of Juniors ITF tournaments that Lee will be competing in in the last two months of the year, as she hopes to boost her world ranking. She is ranked No. 178 as of Oct. 29 and was ranked as high as 161 in September after winning a couple of competitions in Fiji.

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Carol Lee is seen here returning a shot to her opponent in a Juniors ITF event on Saipan early this year. She is in South Korea and is in contention in the doubles competition in the 2018 Lee Duk Hee Cup Chuncheon International Junior Tennis Championships.

Terminator tops Tuesday Night League

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Members of the Terminators pose with their championship trophy during the awards ceremony for the Tuesday Night Bowling League last week at the Saipan Bowling Center.

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Alley Gators players gather for a photo before playing in the new season of the Tuesday Night Bowling League last week at the Saipan Bowling Center.

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The Terminator lorded it over in the Tuesday Night Bowling League after capping the season with a 43.5-20.5 record.

The winning squad prevailed over seven teams and had Miguel Morta, Atoy Banting, Gloria Pagarao, Joe Digno, Boy Cabate, Danny Macaspac, Ann David, and Argie Buensalido as players. The Terminator was handed the championship trophy, medals, and $400 cash during the awards ceremony last week at the Saipan Bowling Center.

Also recognized at the brief awards ceremony were runner-up Alley Gators (41-23) and third placer Natibu (36-28). Marie Gandado, May and Randy Abreau, Roger De Guzman, Dodong Eparwa, Edward Baluyan, Jimmy De Guzman, and Benjie Cruz played for Alley Gators, while Lucy Deleon Guerrero, Rudy Sablan, Paul Pangelinan, Raul Dumapit, Percy Omechelang, Robert Talavera, and Mark Halstead suited up for Natibu.

No Pressure (32.5-31.5), Anchor (30-34), Mixers (28-36), Nice Try (24-40), and Supertech, Inc. (21-43) were the

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